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REVIEWS OF NEW BOOKS.

PAYMENT OF THE NATIONAL DEBT.

Reduction and Liquidation of the National Debt. By a Threadneedle-street Broker. G. Mann.

A BRIEF but important pamphlet has just issued from the press on this momentous subject, and we hasten to add what is in our power to its publicity, for the consideration of financiers and commercial men. No doubt the Chancellor of the Exchequer and the Government, and statesmen of all parties, will give their best attention to, apparently, so feasible a plan, which, if realised, would stamp its author as one of the greatest of national benefactors. The outline is as follows:—

"Primarily, two points must be conceded:—

"1st. That, at whatever cost to the nation, the rights of the national creditor must be maintained.

"2nd. Consistently with the strictest observance of national good faith, it is the duty of the Government to avail itself of all means for the reduction and liquidation of the National Debt."

"At present the great bulk of the National Debt is a fixed capital bearing interest, the only matter of moment being the regular payment of the interest, and from time to time the reduction of this annual charge.

"The interest has been reduced from 5 per cent. to 4 per cent., and from 4 per cent. to 3 per cent. The saving thus effected is spared to the present generation, while the principal debt remains the same, and its liquidation is postponed to the next; for them, on our present principles, to postpone to the next; and so on. Would it not have been more honest to have allowed the interest saved to have gone in reduction of the principal?"

"The providing for the annual interest is sufficiently embarrassing to Government, to discourage them from meddling with more than a show of the reduction of the principal. Experience teaches, that no scheme for a simple direct reduction of the National Debt will succeed; the Government, for the time being, with any income beyond what is absolutely necessary for current government and the annual national engagements, is always rendered vulnerable by the least pressure from without."

"Is there then any scheme, at once simple and effective, which will, 1st., compel the Government to secure the reduction of the principal, while it provides for the interest."

"2nd. That will render taxation tolerable, by showing effective relief in the present or the next generation.

"3rd. That will dissipate the fear of reduction of income to the national creditor for a certain and fixed period.

"The simplest suggestion is, of course, that all this may be accomplished by converting the present perpetual debt into annuities, terminable at fixed periods—giving the present holders of stock a choice of a proportionate annuity for 30 years, or for 60 years, or for 100 years."

"But annuities never bear a rateable value with perpetuities, just because perpetuities (stock) have always competed with annuities; but suppose the government funds were all and only annuities, then they would bear the price that the only really secure investment would always command."

being impracticable, the author has suggested a partial adoption of the principle, in combination with some other simple arrangements, which seem to recommend the plan as strongly to the acceptance of the fundholder as to the country.

After other statements and data the writer says: "Let us take it for granted that the 3 per cent. are at par and above. Let then the following terms be offered to the Stock-holders, including, of course, the alternative to pay off, if they are not accepted."

For every 100 <i>l.</i> Stock, producing at present, per annum	£ s. d.
And now liable to reduction of interest, whenever the market price reaches 100 and upwards, 75 <i>l.</i> of a 3 per cent. Stock, guaranteed from any reduction whatever, for thirty-five years; the Income or Interest from which would be	3 0 0
And an Annuity for 31 years, of, per Annum	2 5 0
The present holder of 100 <i>l.</i> Stock, producing now but 3 <i>l.</i> Yearly, would then receive per Annum, for 31 Years	1 0 0
	3 5 0

"Or, in other words, the Stock-holder consents, in consideration of the 3 per cent. interest being guaranteed from reductions for 30 years on 75*l.*, to be repaid the remaining 25*l.* by yearly instalments of 1*l.* with interest."

"This proposition may be modified, as we shall hereafter consider, but the principle will be the same; and now it will naturally be inquired, what will be the effect of this operation on the nation, and what on the Stock-holder?"

The effect on the latter would be, that by re-investing ONE-HALF the annuity, it would restore him his 25*l.* stock.

"We have seen that the Nation owes (in 3 per cent.) 523,000,000*l.* to individuals who are paid by the Nation, out of the Taxes, an annual interest of 15,690,000*l.*; and as little or no provision is made for the liquidation of the capital, at the end of 31 years we shall be in the same state, viz., owing 523 millions, and paying annually 15,690,000*l.*; whereas, by the proposed plan, the Nation will have paid an increased annual expenditure of 1,307,500*l.* for 31 years; and, at the end of that period, not only will that cease, but also the annuity of 3,922,500*l.* per annum, and the Nation will have liquidated 130,750,000*l.* of the National Debt, leaving that portion of the Debt then to be provided for only 392,250,000*l.*, subject to an annual expenditure for Interest, of 11,767,500*l.*, instead of 15,690,000*l.*, as at present."

"If the proposed temporary outgoing of 1,307,500*l.* cannot be provided for by a decrease of expenditure in other branches of the public service, it will only have to be endured till 1860, when a larger amount will be saved to the public by the falling in of the Long Annuities; thus, by an annual payment of 1,307,500*l.*, in addition to our present expenditures, for 31 years, or, in the whole, 40,532,500*l.*, we shall have paid off, and got rid of for ever, the principal and interest of 130,750,000*l.* of our present Annual Debt; whereas, the 1,307,500*l.*, if set apart for the reduction of the principal of the National Debt in a 3 per cent. Stock, and improved at that rate of interest, would only amount at the end of the 31 years, to 65,400,000*l.*, instead of, as in the plan proposed, twice that amount, besides avoiding the risk of having the voluntary appropriation interrupted."

The same principle is applied throughout, and supported by exact calculations. Need we repeat that the question raised is of inestimable national importance.

THE GREAT RIVERS OF THE EAST.

The Expedition for the Survey of the Rivers Euphrates and Tigris, carried on by order of the British Government in the years 1835, 1836, 1837. By Lieutenant Colonel Chesney, R.A., F.R.S., Commander of the Expedition. 2 vols., with atlas. Longmans.

A BOOK has its "destinies" as well as a nation. It comes fraught with a mission for good or for evil, for usefulness or otherwise; its influence may be more or less extensively felt, but none can be free from all responsibility, and this influence is naturally greatly increased by its well or ill-timed appearance. We are led to these remarks on looking at the statements, in Colonel Chesney's preface, of the various obstacles and disappointments which have so much delayed the appearance of his long-expected work; for, looking back to the years which have intervened between the return of the Euphrates Expedition in 1837 to the present time, we cannot fix upon any period when this great work would have created the interest that we think it now calculated to produce. Even in 1837, when its publication was eagerly expected, it could not have been so practically useful to this country as it may now be for commercial and other objects; nor could it have embraced the subjects of varied and deep research now contained in its pages. Events seem to have been gradually preparing for this introduction (for it is still only an introduction), to the regions of the East. The Expedition itself, and Colonel Chesney's previous exploratory travels, are still to come. In this respect, the present title misleads and will disappoint many. The two volumes before us contain, in fact, a most comprehensive account of the geography of the countries between the Nile and the Indus, with historical notices of all the events connected with the regions traversed by the noble rivers of Mesopotamia. They make us feel perfectly at home in those countries, which are now daily becoming of more familiar interest to us; they throw much light on the early sacred and profane history of Mesopotamia, Syria, and Assyria, and seem to connect and elucidate many of the discoveries of M. Botta, Dr. Layard, Major Rawlinson, and others. At what period so favourable as this could such a work have come before us? The old Assyrian cities are being brought to light. The instructors of Egypt and of Greece are rising from their tombs to fill up the missing links in the chain of early civilisation, and to claim, as their offspring, those stupendous ruins which we contemplate with awe on the banks of the Nile, and those more graceful structures which we gaze on with more familiar admiration on the classic plains of Greece. The cradle of the arts and sciences seems to have been disinterred on the banks of the Euphrates. To many, these regions of the east are becoming invested with a peculiar, almost a mysterious, interest. Some are looking for the rise of ancient Babylon in all her former magnificence, regarding the prophecies relating to the Queen of the East as yet to be fulfilled. Our Jewish brethren are turning their eyes anxiously towards their holy city; and the movement, in favour of their return to Syria, and the rebuilding of the temple at Jerusalem, is becoming more and more general. To others again, the want of a favourable outlet for capital may be a strong inducement to join in forming new com-

Enlarged, 230*l.*

mercial relations with the East; while the projectors of the great line of railway through Europe and Mesopotamia to the Persian Gulf, the Indus, and our Indian possessions,* should look to the steam navigation of the Euphrates as the first important step in the realisation of their plan. The appearance of this work, in connection with all that is passing around us, can scarcely fail to direct public attention more strongly to the East. Of the book itself, we would say that it is the first consecutive geographical and historical account of the vast regions comprised between the Nile and the Indus that has ever been attempted, much less well and ably executed. It is a work of deep and varied research; and, as we had lately occasion to remark when congratulating ourselves on the appearance of Mr. Mure's valuable "Critical History on the Language and Literature of Greece," we augur favourably from it of the revival of a better taste, and we cordially thank Colonel Chesney for adding another work to the sterling literature of the country. His researches tend to increase our confidence in the ancient historians of the East, which are largely quoted, and many curious Arabic MSS. have been discovered from their recesses in the libraries of this as well as of foreign countries. We must confine ourselves at present to the first volume, which alone demands much more attention than our limited space can give. We can only attempt a notice, not a criticism. Here we find the geography of the East interspersed with descriptions of scenery, of cities and their inhabitants, which draw the reader on through the drier, though more important geographical details. The chains of the Taurus and Anti-Taurus are now for the first time distinguished from each other and described. They are laid down in the index map accompanying this volume. If there is a fault to find with this wonderfully comprehensive map, we should say that it is overcrowded, and not sufficiently clear for a map of reference. Of the map of Arabia accompanying the work a large portion is new; the twelve charts of the rivers Euphrates and Tigris are on a scale sufficiently large to render them serviceable for purposes of navigation. This is the great object of the publication. The results of the expedition are given at the end of the second volume, and show incontestably the great commercial opening existing in Mesopotamia, and the perfect navigability of her rivers. This is the point to which Colonel Chesney is desirous to direct public attention. His work has a great national object in view, and neither the disappointments nor the delays he has met with have in any way damped his ardour. It is not usually in our line to touch upon the conduct of Government, even where authors are concerned; still we cannot quite pass by in silence the statements contained in Colonel Chesney's preface. Its calm and dignified tone bears the impress of truth, and we confess that we have read it with some surprise.

Even in this country, not usually too lavish in its rewards, it seems incredible that an officer sent out by his sovereign in the command of an important expedition, after two years and a-half of faithful and successful service, should have been disappointed in the expectations held out to him, and have suffered pecuniary loss as the result of the execution of that sovereign's commands. It seems impossible that the claims of an officer, who to obtain the required information and for the purpose of mapping the Euphrates, descended the river alone on a raft, should be overlooked by any Government. We can, therefore, only suppose that either Colonel Chesney or his friends have been singularly remiss in bringing forward his claims—the more so, as we well remember that, on the return of the expedition, distinctions were conferred on

most of the officers who served under his command. Should the great results which may be expected to arise from the opening of the river Euphrates ever be realised, the statements of Colonel Chesney's preface would be willingly obliterated by all concerned in the government of the country. A change of ministry before the Expedition sailed, and another before its return home, added to the death of the late king, who was known to take a lively interest in the whole proceedings, were no doubt the causes of this apparent neglect of a public servant. The Euphrates Expedition appears to have been disclaimed by each party, and by common consent to have been allowed to drop.

We now proceed to give a few extracts, though from such a mass of information it is almost impossible to select the most striking. Many of Colonel Chesney's statements are new, and may be thought somewhat startling; but his reasons and the authorities for his conclusions are so carefully given, that it is not easy to question the soundness of his views, even where they do not quite accord with our own. Were it only as a work of reference these two volumes would be invaluable; but they have a higher claim, as enlarging our knowledge of biblical history, and connecting the periods of remote antiquity with those of modern times. We give Colonel Chesney's opening description of his work, which he has fully realised:—

"In the following work, it is intended, in obedience to the commands of Her Majesty's Government, to lay before the public the circumstances which led to the organization of an Expedition destined to explore the rivers Euphrates and Tigris, as well as to relate the progress and results of the undertaking itself; and since this novel enterprise was conducted through the most interesting part of the ancient world, it has been thought proper that the first volume should contain a geographical notice of the four principal rivers of Western Asia; together with a general account of the countries lying between the rivers Nile and Indus.

"The second volume will contain the leading historical events connected with that part of the world. A knowledge of these has been derived from Arabic manuscripts, as well as from local and other sources of information; which, if not altogether new to our learned oriental historians, might have long remained unknown to the public in general, except from the circumstances which led to their becoming objects of particular attention during the late Expedition."

The following passage shows the spirit in which the work is written, and Colonel Chesney's anxiety to do justice to all connected with the Expedition:—

"I may here state, that through the unwearied exertions of the officers and men, every end attainable by human skill and industry was accomplished; and if, in the following pages, I succeed in doing justice to those who were placed under my direction, the reader will at least perceive that no commander was ever better supported throughout an arduous and novel enterprise. It is not surprising, therefore, that every difficulty was successfully overcome; and, in recording with no common degree of gratitude, the support which was so cordially given to me, I am free to acknowledge that to me belongs the blame for whatever may seem to have been neglected, or in any way deficient, in the prosecution of the objects contemplated in the plan of the Expedition."

The courses of the four great rivers of Western Asia are carefully followed out in the early part of the work. The Kizil Irmak or Halys of Pliny is first mentioned, and we give a short extract from the descriptions of each of these important streams:—

"The country bordering on the Halys is, for

the most part, but thinly peopled, and only partially cultivated; chiefly owing, as it is said, to the apprehension entertained that the produce may be consumed by the hordes of Kurds who inhabit the mountains in summer, and descend to the plains in winter, accompanied by their numerous flocks; but more probably for want of a commercial outlet. Here the productions of a warm climate are found, such as melons, figs, pomegranates, grapes, &c., as well as the dye called yellowberry. There is, on the whole, such a fair proportion of the necessaries of life, that the people are at their ease, notwithstanding the forced loans exacted by the Kurds, and the other impositions to which they are subject. Throughout a distance of about 100 miles E.N.E., from Yüz Kât to Tökât, the country is a succession of plains, separated by low hills. This part is well peopled, well cultivated, and enjoys a moderate degree of heat in summer. The last great plain before reaching Tökât contains about 70 villages, and produces an incredible quantity of grain.

"Between Tökât and Tarabüzün there are several considerable towns, and numerous villages; and the whole district forms a beautiful, fertile, and prosperous portion of Asia Minor."

The junction of the Kur (the ancient Cyrus of Pliny), and the Araxes follows. Authorities are given for all the quotations and derivations:—

"The waters of the Cyrus and Araxes, at length uniting, form one river, which makes a bold sweep northward, and again another southward, through the plain of Mughân; when, after having run a distance of about 110 miles, measured along the windings, it falls into the Caspian Sea by three mouths, being navigable for boats up to the point of junction. Strabo makes the Araxes larger than the Cyrus, which, he says, augments the former; and at one time it had a separate channel to the sea, merely communicating with the Cyrus by means of a canal.

"The name of the former river is supposed to be derived from Araxes, son of Polusis, who was drowned in it. Moses Chorenensis calls it Erashes; and other oriental writers give it different terminations, as Arashe, Raksi, Eris, Araksis, Arras, Ras, Rus, Arsinas, Cras, and Aras; but Xenophon thinks it came from Ar-ax, or holy water, and that it was dedicated to the sun. In very ancient times it was called Raktos, from a mercantile colony which came from the east and settled on its banks. Owing to its rapidity, it is navigable only for a short distance; but it no longer justifies the expression of the poet,* for Shah Abbas constructed over it, at about sixty miles north of Tabriz, a stone bridge, which is a very fine specimen of architecture; and there is a second, of seven arches, each double, of beautifully light construction, by which I crossed the Aras at Köpri Keiu; and there is another at Hasan kal'eh, of two arches only. The river itself, however, is occasionally fordable at some places in summer.

The following is interesting, as showing the navigability of the river Tigris:—

"The Tigris may be considered as having an average width of 200 yards from Mosul to Baghdad, with a current, in the high season, of about four miles and a quarter per hour. The country is highly cultivated, from Mosul to Nimrud, on both sides of the river; but, from the latter place to Tekrit, all cultivation nearly ceases; and it is but partially found in the tract along the river between Tekrit and Baghdad. The Tigris is navigable for rafts at certain seasons from the bridge of Diyar Bekr to Mosul, a distance of about 296 miles. Below the latter place it is

* Virgil, VIII., 726, 728—

"— ibat jam mollior undis,
— pontem indignatus Araxes."



more or less so throughout the year;* and the descent to Bagdad is performed with such ease and speed that the river is known by the expressive name of the cheap camelier. Large rafts, supported by 200† or even 300 inflated skins are much in use for the transport of goods; and, when the merchants are on board, a small room is raised on the raft in order to give shelter from the sun and rain. During the flood season the voyage is performed in three or four days; whereas at another time it requires about fifteen days.‡

In speaking of 'Anah, on the Euphrates, we find a pleasing description of the scenery on that part of the great river:—

"Opposite this place the walled town of Rawa crowns the summit of the hills rising from the left bank; whilst a little lower, the houses of 'Anah, along the right bank, open to the view, amidst thick date-groves. A string of islands lie nearly in mid-stream, opposite the town; and still lower, but on the left bank, are the ruins of the ancient Anatho.

"Below this picturesque spot the windings are less frequent than in the portion just described; and the course of the river is through a succession of partially wooded hills, chiefly of chalk formation, affording good pasture. Villages occasionally appear, with cultivated grounds about them; and the numerous remains of ancient aqueducts, covering both banks, sufficiently show, what we learn from history, namely, that this portion of the country was at one time thickly inhabited by a civilised and flourishing people. The distance from 'Anah to the island of Hadisah is 49½ miles by the stream, and 28½ miles S. 48 deg. E. in a direct line. The town contains about 400 houses, and it is built on the ruins of the ancient Hadith."

The eligibility of Kurnah as a commercial depot may give an interest to the description of the junction of the Euphrates and Tigris at that spot:—

"The walled town of Kurnah contains about 800 houses, disposed along the right bank of the Tigris and the left of that of the Euphrates. It fluctuates as to size, and it was larger in 1831 than we found it in 1836 and 1837. It is chiefly constructed of reed-mats, and is on part of the supposed site of ancient Apames; which probably stood within the line of walls still extending across the peninsula formed where the two great rivers cease to be known by their individual names.

"The Euphrates and Tigris, now forming one tidal channel, almost half a mile wide, take nearly a straight course, S. 37 deg. E., under the well-known appellation of Shatt el 'Arab, and when five miles below Kurnah their united waters receive those of the Kerah, or Kerkhah, which, coming from the mountains of Ardelan, through an extensive tract of country, passes a short distance westward of the ruins of Susa, and likewise of the town of Hawizah.

"After receiving this accession, the Shatt el 'Arab flows through date-groves, and near several villages, chiefly on the left bank, and at length arrives opposite Basrah, which is 39½ miles by the river, and 36 miles S. 34 deg. E. direct from Kurnah. In the whole of this distance there are but two islands, both of them large; and the river has an average width of 600 yards, with a depth of 21 feet; it has a current of two knots per hour during the flowing, and three knots per hour during the ebb tide."

Want of space obliges us to pass over the descriptions of Jean, its climate, productions,

and the manners of its people, and to omit also a highly interesting account of the religious sects and superstitions of its inhabitants. Indeed, we must not allow ourselves to pause in Armenia, Chaldea, Babylonia, Assyria, or the Russian provinces; but we must devote a few words to the religious sects of Mesopotamia—the Mendajabah (disciples of St. John), who evidently retain traces of the Sabeen origin, and the Yezidis: the latter were also well described by Dr. Layard:—

"There are besides two remarkable sects, one of which, called the Mendajabah, (disciples of John,) is found scattered in small communities in Basrah, Kurnah, Mohammarah, and, lastly, Sheikh el Shuyukh, where there are about three hundred families. Those of Basrah are noticed by Pietro de la Valle, who says the Arabs call them Sabeans. Their religion is evidently a mixture of Paganism, Hebrew Muhammadan, and Christian. They profess to regulate their lives by a book called the Sidra, containing many moral precepts, which, according to tradition, have been handed down from Adam, through Seth and Enoch; and it is understood to be in their language (the Chaldee,) but written in a peculiar character. They abhor circumcision, but are very particular in distinguishing between clean and unclean animals, and likewise in keeping the Sabbath with extraordinary strictness. The Psalms of David are in use, but they are held to be inferior to their own book. They abstain from garlic, beans, and several kinds of pulse, and likewise most carefully from every description of food between sunrise and sunset during a whole moon before the vernal equinox; in addition to which, an annual festival is kept, called the feast of five days. Much respect is entertained for the city of Mecca, and a still greater reverence for the Pyramids of Egypt, in one of which they believe that their great progenitor, Saba, son of Seth, is buried; and to his original residence at Haran they make very particular pilgrimages, sacrificing on these occasions a ram and a hen. They pray seven times a-day, turning sometimes to the south and sometimes to the north. But, at the same time, they retain a part of the ancient worship of the heavenly bodies, adding that of angels, with the belief that the souls of the wicked are to enjoy a happier state after nine hundred centuries of suffering. The priests, who are called sheikhs, or chiefs, use a particular kind of baptism, which, they say, was instituted by St. John; and the Chaldee language is used in this and other ceremonies.

"The other religion, that of a more numerous branch, the Yezidis, is, in some respects, like the Mendajabah, but with the addition of the evil principle, the exalted doctor, who, as an instrument of the divine will, is propitiated rather than worshipped, as had been once supposed. The Yezidis reverence Moses, Christ, and Muhammad, in addition to many of the saints and prophets held in veneration both by Christians and Moslems. They adore the sun, as symbolical of Christ, and believe in an intermediate state after death. The Yezidis of Sinjar do not practise circumcision, nor do they eat pork; but they freely partake of the blood of other animals. Their manners are simple, and their habits, both within and without, remarkable for cleanliness. They are, besides, brave, hospitable, sober, faithful, and, with the exception of the Muhammadan, are inclined to tolerate other religions: they are, however, lamentably deficient in every branch of education. Polygamy is not permitted, and the tribes intermarry with each other. The families of the father and sons live under the same roof; and the patriarchal system is carried out still further, each village being under its own hereditary chief."

Among these varied descriptions, Colonel Chesney has introduced his speculations on the probable site of Paradise which he believes he

has satisfactorily ascertained to be Central Armenia; and "the Land of Eden" is there actually laid down on the index map. He identifies the Halys and Araxes, whose sources exist within a short distance of those of the Euphrates and Tigris, with the Pison and Gihon of Scripture, while he considers the country within the Halys as the land of Havilah, and that which borders on the Araxes as the remarkable and much disputed territory of Cush. Want of space prevents us from giving extracts as we should wish, but we think the reader will follow the author's reasoning and researches with interest. The varied soil and climate of Central Armenia certainly seem to bear out his theory when taken in connection with the sources of the four rivers. The Colonel has also identified, to his own satisfaction at least, the disputed bellium with the pearl.

We have a striking description of some of the scenery of the Taurus, which possibly, a few years hence, may become as well known to many of our countrymen as the Tyrol, to which it is compared, is at present:—

"A few miles westward of Marash a change takes place, and the chain presents three distinct naked ridges, each of which is composed of masses of rock with conical summits, having nearly equal elevations: since snow remains on the ridges throughout the summer, that elevation must be considerable; and it increases on approaching the Pye Cilicia, where it is about 13,000 feet. The vast masses of limestone, of which the chain is almost entirely composed, are usually separated by wild and deep parallel ravines, which are either shut in by steep wooded acclivities, or vertical precipices, through which passages are effected at intervals, but with much difficulty. The scenery, though far superior, may, in some respects, be compared to that of the Tyrol; and the paths being carried some hundreds of feet above the foot of the mountain, afford, along the side of the Durdun Tagh, and near the bed of the Jaihin, some of the wildest and grandest views in nature."

The Cilician and Cappadocian gates, and other wild passes of the Taurus, are even more striking, but the descriptions are too long to extract. The account of the Turk places his character in a new and more than usually favourable light: he would do honour to any community; but this and other matters, in a work so important, we must reserve.

SUPERNATURAL APPEARANCES.

The Phantom World. By Augustine Calmet. With an Introduction and Notes by the Rev. H. Christmas, M.A. 2 vols. Bentley.

A BRIEF biography of the author is prefixed to this edition of his famous work, which edified the world above a hundred years ago, and is well worthy of study now, not altogether for its internal edification, as for its being a grand groundwork on which to teach ourselves how much our progenitors believed, how much we have repudiated, and how much of folly, credulity, superstition, and imposture remains still in force, to be rejected by our better informed successors.

The great question is the quantum, the more or less of humbug, to which mankind submit at different periods in the succession of ages, and the ever recurring boast of superior enlightenment and wisdom. We are by no means assured that there is not more practised at this blessed date of 1850, than prevailed at any preceding era whatever? For in ancient days the Science of Humbug was limited to small bodies of men belonging to peculiar classes; principally in the earliest times, the clergy, but later, taking in the professors of the medical art, and a larger acquisition of astrologers addicted to occult necromancy than existed in the elder earth. But now the deluding trade is extended throughout all classes. It seems to

* "The Euphrates steamer, under Lieutenant Lynch, went as high as the bend of Nimrud in 1838; and this officer made a map of the river, from Bagdad to Mosul, by trigonometrical operations between points which were determined by astronomical observations."

† "The raft constructed to carry the Right Honourable John Sullivan from Mosul to Bagdad, in 1781, was supported by 200 skins, and had on it a small cabin."—*Voyage de Sestini a Basrah*, p. 153.

have kept pace at least with the vaunted "Diffusion of Knowledge;" and, if we look around us, far and near, we must confess that the diffusion of phantom pretences to enslave the human intellect, for the power and profit of the enslavers, is more universal than the annals of history can show.

It is all very well to talk of the Dark Ages, as if people could not see an inch before their noses then; but even if we had emerged into sunshine from that night, it may happen that the vision can be as erroneously perverted in the midst of too much light. There was "Egyptian Darkness," and a hierarchy of matchless cunning. Is there nothing of the kind now? At any rate there was plenty when Calmet wrote and published.

But we have always entertained a somewhat exalted opinion of these said Egyptians, from redeeming circumstances which do not seem matched in our system. There was a solemn and august lesson in their seating the corpse at the festive board; it was a more impressive *memento mori* than our funeral sermon and intramural interment. Again their trial of the dead immediately after death was a wonderfully potent ceremony, and the representations of the results on the mummy cases and monuments of tenfold greater efficacy in promoting a good and beneficent life than all the verdicts of coroners' inquests that ever were pronounced. Do not let us despise the Egyptians.

Since the beginning it has been the same. Certain men or combinations of men have always endeavoured to subjugate the souls of their fellow creatures, and, by one pretence or other, get the prostrate beings to believe in them, fear them, toil for them, worship them, live for them, die for them! There is only a difference in the arts employed and the methods used. But to come to our Calmet. The moving cause which he sustains in the middle of last century may be understood from the three paragraphs annexed.

"Is not," he asks, "the absolute renunciation of all belief in apparitions assailing Christianity in its most sacred authority, in the belief of another life, of a church still subsisting in another world, of rewards for good actions, and of punishments for bad ones; the utility of prayers for the dead, and the efficacy of exorcisms?"

"To pretend that Satan can do no harm, either to the health of mankind, or to the fruits of the earth; can neither attack us by his stratagems, his malice, and his fury against us, nor torment those whom he pursues or possesses; that magicians and wizards can make use of no spells and charms to cause both men and animals dreadful maladies, and even death, is a direct attack on the faith of the church, the Holy Scriptures, the most sacred practices, and the opinions of not only the holy fathers and the best theologians, but also on the laws and ordinances of princes, and the decrees of the most respectable parliaments."

"The fathers of the first ages speak often of the power that the Christians exercised against the demons, against those who called themselves diviners, against magicians and other subalterns of the devil, principally against those who were possessed, who were then frequently seen, and are so still from time to time, both in the church and out of the church. Exorcisms and other prayers of the church have always been employed against these, and with success. Emperors and kings have employed their authority and the rigour of the laws against those who have devoted themselves to the service of the demon, and used spells, charms, and other methods which the demon employs, to entice and destroy both men and animals, or the fruits of the country."

Ergo, it needed the aid of the priesthood to protect folks from such evils; and it was, and is, a thriving trade. We refrain from the particulars so degrading to the human understanding, and so glorifying to roguery preying on ignorance.

And having dismissed the consideration of the

affronting topic, we shall only exemplify the work by a few significant quotations which unfold the opinions of a hundred years ago.

"John Faust Cudlingen, a German, was requested, in a company of gypsies, to perform in their presence some tricks of his trade; he promised to show them a vine loaded with grapes ripe and ready to gather. They thought, as it was then the month of December, he could not execute his promise. He strongly recommended them not to stir from their places, and not to lift up their hands to cut the grapes, unless by his express order. The vine appeared directly, covered with leaves and loaded with grapes, to the great astonishment of all present; every one took up his knife, awaiting the order of Cudlingen to cut some grapes; but after having kept them for some time in that expectation, he suddenly caused the vine and the grapes to disappear; then every one found himself armed with his knife, and holding his neighbour's nose with one hand, so that if they had cut off a bunch without the order of Cudlingen, they would have cut off one another's noses."

"There are both men and women who, without intending to hurt, do a great deal of harm to children, and all the tender and delicate animals which they look at attentively, or which they touch. This happens particularly in hot countries; and many examples might be cited of it; from which arises what both ancients and moderns call fascination (or the evil eye); hence the precautions which were taken against these effects by amulets and preservatives which were suspended to children's necks."

"The chemists demonstrate that the palingenesis, or a sort of restoration or resurrection of animals, insects, and plants, is possible and natural. When the ashes of a plant are placed in a phial, these ashes rise, and arrange themselves as much as they can in the form which was first impressed on them by the Author of Nature."

"Father Schol, a Jesuit, affirms that he has often seen a rose which was made to arise from its ashes every time they wished to see it done by means of a little heat."

"The secret of a mineral water has been found by means of which a dead plant which has its root can be made green again, and brought to the same state as if it were growing in the ground. Digby asserts that he has drawn from dead animals, which were beaten and bruised in a mortar, the representation of these animals, or other animals of the same species."

"Duchesse, a famous chemist, relates that a physician of Cracow preserved in phials the ashes of almost every kind of plant, so that when any one from curiosity desired to see, for instance, a rose in these phials, he took that in which the ashes of the rose-bush were preserved, and placing it over a lighted candle, as soon as it felt a little warmth, they saw the ashes stir and rise like a little dark cloud, and, after some movements, they represented a rose as beautiful and fresh as if newly gathered from the rose-tree."

"Gaffard assures us that M. de Cleves, a celebrated chemist, showed every day plants drawn from their own ashes. David Vanderbroch affirms that the blood of animals contains the idea of their species, as well as their seed; he relates on this subject the experiment of M. Borelli, who asserts, that the human blood, when warm, is still full of its spirits or sulphurs, acid and volatile, and that being excited in cemeteries, and in places where great battles are fought, by some heat in the ground, the phantoms or ideas of the persons who are there interred are seen to rise; that we should see them as well by day as by night, were it not for the excess of light which prevents us even from seeing the stars. He adds, that by this means we might behold the idea, and represent by a lawful and natural necromancy the figure or phantom of all the great men of anti-

quity, our friends and our ancestors, provided we possess their ashes."

"To conclude from hence that all the apparitions and operations attributed to angels, spirits or souls, and demons, are chimerical, is carrying things to excess; it is to conclude that we mistake always, because we mistake often."

The book is a curious book, and well merits a place in the popular library.

THE WEST INDIES.

Impressions and Experiences of the West Indies and North America in 1849. By R. Baird, A.M. 2 vols. Blackwoods.

IN our preceding *Gazette* we have had occasion to speak of these parts as they were very many years ago; and here we are called to notice what they exhibit in our own day, of life, manners and scenery. *Quanto mutato* we may certainly exclaim; but still we regret to observe sufficiently troubled, though not by buccaneers. The author sought the West Indian Archipelago as an invalid in search of health from a warm climate; and traversed more of the islands, and thence America on the south and up to Canada, &c., than we remember to have been effected by the most robust of travellers. The variety of his observations as he moves from place to place, though it animates the narrative, are rather distracting to us, who ought to lick them into review shape, and build the scattered fragments into a compact mass. Pray look at the annexed extracts, taken almost hap-hazard, and say if such a task were possible.

"A single fact will best illustrate the clearness of the atmosphere, and the greater prominence and brilliancy of the stars consequent thereupon. Oft when in Antigua, and also in the other islands of the West Indian seas, have I observed and called attention to the fact, that, in certain positions of the planet Venus, she was seen under a crescent form like a small moon, and emitting or transmitting, in the absence of the moon herself, a quantity of light which made her by no means an insufficient substitute."

"The visitor will be much pleased with St. Pierre, and its peculiarly French aspect, particularly as he cannot fail, in the course of his visit, to remark the truth of an observation I have somewhere met with, viz., that the coloured females of this island excel in grace and beauty the ladies of the same complexion to be found in most of the other islands, and particularly those in the possession of England. A similar remark is found to apply to the women of colour in the Spanish and Danish islands; so that it would really seem, as observed by Coleridge, that 'the French and Spanish,' and I would add the Danish 'blood, seems to unite more kindly and perfectly with the negro than does our British stuff.'

"At the date of my visit to the jail of Antigua, there was only one prisoner in the debtors' ward. This fact, however, did not prove anything either for or against the proportion of the population exposed to such execution against the person. It rather arose from the circumstance that, in Antigua, as in all civilised places, it has been discovered to be but a coarse and irrational way of stimulating a man to industry, to place him where his exertions can be of little or no use either to others or to himself: aided also, no doubt, by the influences of a law which I found in the pages of the statute-book of the local legislature of the island—and which is interesting to a Scotsman as showing a resemblance to the law which has long been in existence in his native land on this subject—which law compels the incarcerating creditor to provide for the wants of his indigent debtor while in jail, by paying for him one shilling a-day, in the way of alimony, on the debtor making oath that he has not the wherewithal to support himself."

"The negro population of Montserrat speak with an Irish accent, probably from a large part

of its early trade having at one time been with Ireland, and there being at one time Irish managers and proprietors in the island. In 1770 the value of its exports to Ireland was above 80,000*l.*, while to England the inhabitants of the island only exported to the value of 7,400*l.* . . . It is said that many years ago, when an emigrant from the Emerald Isle was about to settle in Montserrat, he was surprised to find that the negro who was rowing him from the ship to the shore spoke with as pure a Milesian brogue as he did himself. Taking the negro for an Irishman, though a blackened one, and desirous of ascertaining the length of time that it took so thoroughly to tan the 'human face divine,' the Patlander addressed his supposed countryman with the question, 'I say, Pat, how long time have you been out?' 'Three months,' was the astounding answer. 'Three months!' ejaculated the astonished and alarmed son of Erin—'three months! and as black as my hat already. Row me back to the ship. I wouldn't have my face that black for all the rum and sugar in the West Indies.' . . .

"The Moravian brethren have in Antigua, at present, nine churches and chapels, under the charge of ten ministers; while of the eight thousand eight hundred and six members of the population in connexion with the body, six thousand two hundred and ninety-eight are adults, and, of the last-mentioned number, four thousand six hundred and eight are communicants. Nearly the whole of these persons are negroes, only a few of them being of the coloured population, and still fewer of them white. Following up the principles of their profession, the Moravian body in Antigua have already schools in connexion with the churches. They have at present nine Sunday schools, which are attended by two thousand one hundred and ninety-five scholars, who, of course, are nearly all negroes, and whose education is presided over by no less than one hundred and six female, and one hundred and seven male teachers."

Of the same island we read—

"In connexion with the earthquake of 1843, I heard an anecdote of a negro overseer, which displayed as much coolness, under circumstances of danger, as any story I ever heard. The earthquake made itself felt by repeated and successive shocks, or shakes, each of some minutes' duration, during which the earth heaved and seemed to reel, so that it was impossible to stand steady; and many lay down on the ground or floor till the shaking subsided.

"During one of the lulls, which were marked by a deep stillness, the proprietor of one of the finest estates in the island rose up, and, as he graphically expressed it, 'after steadying himself on his feet,' went out to see what injury had been done by the antecedent shocks to the buildings of his sugar-works. On passing one of his cane-fields, he was surprised to find a band of negro girls hoeing canes, under the charge of a negro overseer, who accosted him coolly with the observation—'Bad shake that, Massa,' and then turned round to one of the girls who (alarmed by the earthquake) was moving off to some place of imagined safety.—'You, Miss Dina, you come here; you no 'top de shake, can you?'

"To the person fresh from Europe, there is much information, as well as amusement, to be found in watching the peculiarities of the negro character. At least I found it so; and, without meaning to be a eulogiser of the negro and his capabilities, I must say I saw and heard much to satisfy me that the negro race is capable of advancing to a high position in intelligence and civilisation. . . .

"Popular sayings in common use among these descendants of the sons of Africa are oftentimes very amusing. 'When cattle* lose tail, who for

brush fly?' is the common negro form for pointing out how essential one person is to another: 'Night no hab eye,' is the apology for a negro woman's evening dishabille; and 'When cock-roach gib dance, him no ask fowl,' was the explanation given by a negro to a friend and myself, when charged by us with a breach of contract in not getting us an invitation to a 'Dignity ball.'"

St. Kitt's abounds in monkeys, and the author tells—

"It is not easy to disabuse the negro of the conviction that the monkey is not endowed with powers of reason, similar, if not equal, to those of man. Sambo may not now carry his views the length of maintaining that the monkey's refusal to make use of the gift of speech proceeds from the fear that, if he spoke, massa would set him to work; but on several occasions I have heard the negro and coloured boatmen ascribe to the monkey tribe powers of memory and of reason little short of human. Indeed it is difficult to hear such tales, oft repeated and seemingly authenticated, without admitting that this 'caricature on humanity' trenches in some degree on man's 'high prerogative' of reason. That the monkeys bury their dead in regularly prepared graves, and that they even attend to funeral processions and obsequies, as men do, is a statement I have oftentimes heard made, and attempted to be authenticated by the averment that the asserter had seen them engaged in the 'duty,' as well as enforced by the argument that the dead body of a monkey is never seen in the woods. Another equally prevalent belief is, that if the tribe is offended in any way by a particular party, they will find out that particular person's ground, and under cloud of night root up his sweet potatoes, and otherwise despoil his possessions. At all events, one fact is well known, and it is this, that the gestures of an irate monkey are very much those of an angry man, and as emphatically, and by the same signs, indicate a hope and an intention of future revenge."

The Danish islands are described as very prosperous; but as we have only gone into desultory matters, and not attempted reference to the quantity of useful information upon more important subjects, we must confine ourselves to one grave quotation, and leave the publication to the popularity it merits; with the confession that we could easily have enlarged our *olla podrida* to ten times as much in proof of Mr. Baird's observant mind and talent for communicating the intelligence it enabled him to collect:—

Cuba.—"I am inclined to believe that Cuba would be a much better customer of England in the hands of our enterprising brethren of the New World, than she is at present in the hands of Spain; and I will without hesitation affirm, that the loss of Cuba would only be a just retribution—an act of retributive justice—suffered by Spain, not only for her cruelties to the aborigines, but also for the dishonourable manner in which she has made use of her possession of this island to evade the performance of her obligations contracted to and with England in the matter of the slave-trade. There can be no doubt of the fact, that during the last year the importation of slaves into the island of Cuba has been carried on in full vigour—so vigorously and extensively, that the price of slaves had fallen, in consequence of the plentiful supply, from four hundred and fifty or five hundred, to from two hundred and fifty to three hundred dollars. This fact is notorious, and I heard it authenticated by official authority. It is equally notorious in the island itself, that the agent of the Queen Mother of Spain was and is extensively engaged in the infamous traffic; and it is more than suspected that, directly or indirectly, his royal mistress is a large participator in the heavy gains her agent realises from this trade in human flesh. Indeed, the traffic is little short of being a legalised one."

On the American division of the work we have said nothing, nor of the political questions respecting the condition of our West Indian Colonies, nor of the slave trade and slavery; but on all these the reader will find statistics and remarks which greatly enhance the public value of the author's labours.

NEW NOVELS.

The Armourer's Daughter; or, the Border Riders. 3 vols. Newby.

A HISTORICAL story, founded on the bold ambitious venture of Perkin Warbeck, and embossed upon the main fabric the daring exploits of Scottish Border Chiefs and their adherents. The devoted affection of Warbeck's noble wife, and the stirring scenes of the real history, augmented by concomitant inventions of characters, incidents, revenges, and other powerful ingredients of passion and mystery, render the whole a work of the kind that takes a strong hold on the minds of novel readers. It will, therefore, be perused with much interest by the great majority of that abounding class.

Anne Dysart: a Tale of Every-day Life. 3 vols. Colburn.

HAVING also connection with the Scottish Borders, but of modern times, when they are utterly changed from what they were of old, this novel is a perfect antipodes to the preceding. It is literally what it professes on its title-page to be, a "Tale of Every-day Life;" and, though evidently the production of a young writer, is remarkable for the talent with which its many characters are drawn, and the acuteness of its observation. The persons and circumstances range and change far too much to admit of our comprehending them in any moderate length of description. There are some discussions on religious points, but (fortunately) not to the objectionable extent of interfering with the interest of the story; and its vicissitudes, with the excellent moral inferences which they inculcate, possess the valuable qualities of being perfectly natural and full of truth. Of this very virtue, in an argumentative conversation between the hero and heroine, it is said:—

"Poor Anne, who felt quite knocked down by this rejoinder, could only stammer out—

"'But I do like best people who are agreeable.'"

"'Oh, you do! Out comes the truth at last. You prefer flattery to truth?'

"'No; but cannot truth be made agreeable?'

"'Truth cannot be made anything but what it is; and it will never be agreeable to those who prefer flattery, among whom may be classed an overwhelming majority of mankind. Society, Miss Dysart, is a system of deceit and make-believe. Nobody says what he thinks; nobody seems what he is. People say "it will give them much pleasure" to do what they privately think an intolerable nuisance—that they are "very sorry" when they don't care a straw. The very features are taught to lie; charity is reduced to a becoming air; knowledge affords but matter for a vain-glorious parade; truth is but a mask; and religion a squabble for temporal supremacy and self-exaltation. All is hollow; all is *seeming*, and *not being*; and the world's hollow honours and meretricious glory wait upon him who *seems* the best. Therefore, Miss Dysart, the best pretenders are the most successful—flatterers the most agreeable—in such a state of society.'"

"Anne pondered for a few minutes. She had a rather slow though a sound understanding. There was some truth in what Mr. Bolton said, but so great a want of charity, that she felt from the first as if, some way or other, he could not be quite right. It was some time, however, ere she discovered how he was wrong, and even then, perhaps, could not have defined it. She answered gravely and modestly, but with less timidity than usual:

* Throughout the West Indies you seldom hear of a bull, an ox, a cow, &c.; the word is 'cattle,' used in the singular as well as in the plural."

"But still, Mr. Bolton, it is possible to be both agreeable and sincere. I know it is possible, because I have seen it; and I think, that though there is some truth in what you say, yet, as far as my very limited experience justifies me in forming an opinion, I should say that truth, united with kindness, is appreciated; indeed, I am sure some people have been liked who never flattered: I knew one person, at least, whom everybody loved, who would not have told a falsehood for the world, and who was all he seemed."

"I suppose you mean your father? Well, without exactly sharing in your filial enthusiasm, I am inclined to believe that he was a superior man."

The good sense of this is but a slight proof of that which is displayed throughout these volumes, and which, together with the able descriptions of almost every phase of action and feeling in domestic life—error, repentance, pleasures, sufferings, deaths—recommend *Anne Dysart* to the favour of the public.

Clarendon: a Tale. By W. Dodsworth. 3 vols. Simpkin, Marshall, and Co.

WITH nothing to distinguish it from the ordinary class of novels, which exhibit the social characters and manners of the day. The hero, Herbert, gets through many strange and perilous adventures, much out of the common way, so as to impart such interest to the story as novel readers love; and the *dramatis personæ*, both in upper and lower life, are drawn with distinctive observation, so that upon the whole we may recommend *Clarendon* for a few hours' recreation.

Redwood: a Tale. By the author of "Hope Leslie." New York: Putnam.

AN edition in one volume of a singular mixture of religious picturing, the gist of which seems to be to recommend the doctrines and practices of the American Set of Shakers. It is as odd a *mélange* as we ever dipped into; as for reading it all, through and through, as the saying is, that is impossible to any body but a persevering Shaker.

PAPAL STATES.

The History of the Papal States, from their origin to the present day. By the Rev. J. Miley, D.D. 3 vols. 8vo. Newby.

THE merits of great labour and diligence must be awarded to Dr. Miley, whose devoted attachment to the See of Rome could hardly have inspired a more comprehensive and toilsome work. The wide field he had to explore, though it had been dug and mined in every direction for ages, displayed an immense crowd of materials, here a mass (no pun) and there a mass, scattered through the vast extent, rather than a connected arrangement; and the difficulty of bringing them together into aught like historical order, was indeed a task to appal the sturdiest of literary undertakers. The learned Missionary has, however, wrought like a stout Irish hodman, running and leaping backwards and forwards, transporting a lot from this quarter to that, collecting a heap or clearing a confused accumulation, delving and sorting till he has really got such a survey of the ground that, if not masterly in itself, must at all events be very useful in its details for present readers and future writers.

The first part is Geographical, and gives a complete view of the Papal States from the earliest period to our time. History follows, from the origin of the Papal temporal Sovereignty, and shows that the Church had very speedily become very wealthy and very powerful, even in the midst of the bitterest Pagan persecutions. The dark ages are, consequently, examined, and a multitude of authors here, as elsewhere, consulted for the statements produced; in which we may note that the renowned Hildebrand makes a most conspicuous figure. The spirit in which the author writes may be exemplified by a brief ex-

tract, in which he describes the origin of the Albigenses:—

"A sect bearing a striking resemblance to the secret societies of modern times emerges into light about this time. 'The principle which proclaims each individual to be independent of all superior authority,' says Hurter, 'is common to both; they are actuated by the same hatred of social institutions, particularly of the Church and its ministers: they agree in communicating their secret only after long probation, and with the obligation under pledges the most awful, not to divulge it even to the nearest kindred. In the mediæval as well as in the modern secret societies, the chiefs are not known to the crowd, but only to a select few of the adepts; the division is by provinces—each of which has its own directory, through whom the orders of the chiefs, the cabalistic signs and passwords, are communicated to the initiated at large.' In the Basques, Navarre, and Arragon, from contact and intercourse with the Mahomedans, and in Aquitaine and Languedoc—where there seems to have always lingered some taint of the old Pagan manners, and a more than ordinary proclivity to unbridled indulgence of the passions—on both sides of the Pyrenees, in short, where the sect appeared in its most formidable strength, when it had won over the gay and pleasure-loving Castellans of the country in vast numbers, it began an open war of extermination against all who refused to participate in its wickedness. They spared neither sex nor age: but the desecration and total destruction of monasteries and churches seemed to be the grand object of their forays, in which they devastated and slaughtered all before them, as if they were Pagans. In Lombardy also, where the schismatical war so long carried on by the empire against the Papacy had greatly retarded the cure of the disorders which so furiously resisted the reform of Hildebrand and his successors, the sectaries had met with great success. They went by different names in different countries; but all were banded in the same conspiracy. In fine, so widely spread was the evil that the propagandists boasted of having in a short time established a firm footing in no less than one thousand cities, altogether, and of being able to count amongst the initiated even some abbots and canons of cathedral churches."

"It having come to the ears of Pope Innocent (during whose reign this mediæval development of Socialism was completely broken up) that, under the name of Patari, the propagandists were beginning to infect the cities, even of his own States, he gave out that he would immediately repair, in person, to Viterbo, their headquarters—*échementer infecta*—to extirpate the mischief. No sooner did these tidings reach Viterbo than the missionaries made their exit in great haste; but the Pope made his visit to Viterbo, nevertheless. He caused those who had harboured and encouraged the conspirators to be brought before him; reprimanded them severely; caused the podestà and the consuls to require from them bail and securities for their future good behaviour; and to impress the public mind with a salutary abhorrence of principles so subversive of all social order and happiness, commanded the houses where these propagandists had been accustomed to hold their cabals, to be reduced to so many heaps of ruins."

"* * * Ac per Potestatem et Consules fecit universos attingi, preestita juratoria, fidejussoria, pignoratitia cautione quod suis per omnia passionibus obedirent."—*Id.*

"Mariotti, an envenomed, accomplished, and unscrupulous foe of the Papacy, in his 'Italy Past and Present,' admits the identity both as to principles and practices between the Socialists of 1849 and the Sectaries alluded to. In speaking of one of their most distinguished leaders he says: 'Preaching the easy doctrines of the *communauté des biens* and *communauté des femmes*, nearly in the same terms in which they were to be revived five hundred and thirty years later, he attracted an immense crowd of votaries, male and female, whom he kept feasting and revelling at the expense of the faithful, rob-

We need not pursue the matter farther to our own date, the denunciation of Mazzini and the Carbonari, the censures of Azelio, and the moderate Progressistas School, and the eulogy upon Gregory XVI. and Pio IX. In conclusion, the faithful and learned Doctor says:—

"Often as this Sovereignty has been overthrown, it has never failed, in ways the most singular and unforeseen by the wisest statesmen, to be restored again; and the most deadly strokes of its assailants have in the most signal manner invariably recoiled upon themselves. The Lombard nation, the Hohenstaufen dynasty, the counts of Tusculum, the House of Valois, the Colonna and the Cenci—all signal instances of this, are enough to notice, as those of a more modern date are known to every one. And, on this account alone, without reference to others, one may be tempted to apprehend, that, in the interpretations of prophecy so much in vogue, there is possibly some mistake; and that, perhaps, after all, it was to this singular realm, so weak and instable, to all appearance, so incessantly assailed during a thousand years, and yet surviving, the Prophet pointed, when he said: 'But in the days of these kingdoms, the God of Heaven will set up a kingdom that shall never be destroyed, and his kingdom shall not be delivered up to another people.'"

Before laying down our pen, we may observe that the author has not attempted to add much from original sources or manuscripts, to the extensive intelligence he has drawn from the almost innumerable stores of preceding writers. He only quotes a Vatican Codex, containing a family history of the Counts of Tusculum, shedding "some additional rays of light on the murk of the tenth century;" two MSS. from the archives of Monte Casino, relating to the "lapse of Ferrara, and a minute survey of the boundaries of Romagna, or as commonly called Romaniola;" and, lastly, a diary by an English resident in Rome, from the Autumn of 1828 to the summer of 1832, vindicating forcibly the policy and acts of Pope Gregory XVI.

We have now only to repeat, that there is in these three volumes a vast quantity of matter got together, with a degree of wholeness not hitherto aimed at by any author on the subject.

HUNGARIAN WAR.

Memoirs of the War of Independence in Hungary. By General Klapka. 2 vols. Gilpin.

GENERAL KLAPKA was one of the leaders of the Hungarian revolt, Secretary at War, and Commandant of Komorn, which held out to the last against the Austrian and Russian combined army. He fortunately got away, on the terms of the capitulation, came to England, and was well received by distinguished members of the British Government. This having been commented upon by our contemporary, the *Quarterly Review*, in a manner displeasing to the General, he appealed to the law to avenge his quarrel; but the law took the affair coolly, and "there an end." But, as we entertain a wholesome dread of aught litigious, we will restrict our remarks on this publication to the simplest forms.

The General is the hero of his own history; and where the Hungarians are victorious applauds them to the echo; where they fail, ascribes unbounded errors in strategy, or treachery and treason, to their commanders; and, with few exceptions, speaks not very favourably of his compatriots, and always abusively of his enemies. He fights all the battles over again in his own way, and tells how, by such and such combinations, the results would have been different, and so forth. Another issue having happened, we do not think

ING AND RAVAGING the mountains of Canavese and Mont-ferrat, until besieged and taken by famine, he was burnt at the stake, with the fair partner of his orgies, and twelve of his apostles and proselytes."—Vol. I. p. 98. London, 1848.

* Daniel, ch. ii. 44. See also, ch. vii. 17, 18.

our readers will care much for the causes which have led to it—whether mistakes, or jealousies, or rival ambitions struggle for power. We, therefore, leave Kossuth, Görgey, Perczel, Jellachich, Haynau, Windischgrätz, Klapka, and Co., to have matters settled among them by present politicians and future historians. We consider Klapka too much of a hot partizan to be an authority on whom to pin our faith.

Nevertheless, this is a book to be perused in all connection with the dreadful conflict to which it relates. The miseries of civil war are horribly exemplified on all sides. Even the Commandant of Komorn committed acts which he declares to have been absolutely indispensable, but which makes one's blood boil with horror and indignation. Holding out against hope, he states:—

"After the expiration of the armistice, I received, almost daily, reports of bodies of troops having deserted, and a general demoralisation and 'debandade' was imminent.

"This state of affairs compelled me to proclaim the *statutum*, and to invest the commanders of divisions with the power to pronounce and execute sentences of death. Shortly afterwards, two deserters from the forty-eighth battalion were recaptured, tried, and shot. But the example was too isolated to act as a warning. The number of deserters increased. On the 12th of September, a body of forty-eight men absconded from the quarters of the sixty-first battalion; they were for the major part Slavonian and Wallachian recruits, whom I enlisted in June. Many others were preparing to follow their example. I saw the time had come to act with the greatest severity. My hussars, whom I despatched in pursuit, recaptured thirty of the deserters. They were at once handed over to a *statutum*.

"While the trial was being proceeded with in the open air, I was suddenly and most unexpectedly threatened by another danger. A mutiny had broken out in the camp of the Boeszkai hussars.

"The troopers of this gallant regiment (for the most part fine young men from Hajduk cities) had volunteered to serve for one year, and in the course of that time they were always foremost in martial courage and zeal. But, having been informed that the divisions of their regiment which stood at Temeshvár had already returned to their homes, they insisted on receiving their discharge, protesting that their term of service expired within the next ten days. I addressed and persuaded them to stay, after discharging a few of the men, who, as fathers of families, proved that their presence at home was urgently required. The rest returned to the camp.

"One escadron of this regiment was soon afterwards ordered to the outposts. But, yielding to the promptings of two of their comrades, they refused to obey. Throwing down their arms, amidst threats and imprecations, they insisted on an immediate discharge. Colonel Kaszap, a man of great energy, whom they loved and revered, tried vainly to bring them back to their duty, and to warn them of the consequences of their conduct. They clamoured, refused to listen to his reasoning, and demanded to see me at once, and in a body.

"They were admitted. Again I endeavoured, by kind words, to convince them of their error: they were obstinate, and insisted on their demand. It was then that, with a bleeding heart, I committed the wretched victims of their obstinacy (seventy-five in number) to trial by *statutum*. They were sentenced to death and the deserters with them.

"I commuted the sentence to decimation of the Boeszkai hussars, and confirmed it in the case of eight of the most guilty among the deserters. The execution of the sentence took place on the 14th of September, in the midst of six battalions and of one escadron of the Boeszkai hussars. Twenty-four men of each battalion of the garrison

were ordered to attend punishment; and when the sun set, the seven hussars and eight honveds had ceased to live.

"This fearful execution awed all minds; for the brave, though misguided men, died with firmness and sincere repentance. Many of the spectators wept, and again pledged their oaths that they would devote their blood and their lives to the cause of their country. As for the rest of the mutineers, they understood at length the true nature of their crime. They implored me, for pity's sake, to lead them into the midst of the fight, and to give them an opportunity of atoning for the guilt which oppressed them.

"From that day we had no desertions and mutinies to contend with."

With this extract we would be satisfied, but must quote a brief portion of a grand declaration by Kossuth, in which he gives his opinion of Us in no very flattering terms:—

"In the first moments of our assuming office, we entered into correspondence with the British Government, and explained that Hungary has not, as many have attempted to promulgate, extorted rights and liberties from her King, but that we stand on common ground; with our Lord and King we have further entered into an explanation of the interests we have in common on the Lower Danube. On the part of the British Government we have received a reply, such as we might have expected from the liberal views, and from the policy of that nation. In the meanwhile, we may rest convinced that England will only assist us if, and as far as she finds it consistent with her own interests."

Of the French his notice is not more complimentary:—

"As for France, I entertain for the French, as the champions of liberty, the most lively sympathy, but I am, nevertheless, not inclined to see the life of my nation dependant upon their protection and their alliance. France has just seen a second 18th Brumaire. France stands on the threshold of a Dictatorship; perhaps the world may see a second Washington: it is most likely that we shall see a second Napoleon rising out of the ashes of the Past. This much is certain: France can give us a lesson that not every revolution is for the interest of liberty, and that a nation, striving for liberty, can be placed under the yoke of tyranny most easily when that liberty exceeds proper limits. It is indeed a most lamentable event for such a nation as the glorious French nation undoubtedly is, that in the streets of Paris the blood of 12,000 citizens has been shed by the hand of their fellow-citizens. May God preserve us from such a fury in our own country! But whatever form the affairs of France may assume—whether that man whom Providence has placed at the head of that nation becomes a second Washington who knows to reject the crown, or a second Napoleon, who, on the ruins of the people's liberty, erects the temple of his sanguinary glory; one thing is certain—that France is far from us. Poland relied on French sympathy; that sympathy existed, but Poland is no more!"

The Hungarian Revolution. By John Pragay. New York: Putnam.

Is another version of the same story, by a Colonel and Adjutant-General under Kossuth. It agrees generally with Klapka's narrative, and the variations are not worth dwelling upon.

Hungary and the Hungarian Struggle. By T. G. Clark. Edinburgh: Hogg. London: Groombridge and Son.

MR. CLARK resided in Hungary in 1847, 8, and 9, and delivered these three lectures before the Edinburgh Philosophical Institution on the subject above indicated. His opinions side enthusiastically with the Magyars, and he generally supports the views taken by the preceding authors.

SUMMARY.

An Arctic Voyage to Baffin's Bay and Lancaster Sound. By R. A. Goodsir. Van Voorst.

MR. GOODSIR went out as surgeon to a whaler last year, and, as every thing connected with Arctic navigation is now sought with anxiety, has been induced to print this unpretending volume. There is, however, little in it which can be construed either *pro* or *con* as regards the missing Expedition. Only that an earlier appearance than has been usual on the edge of the ice is desirable (as shown by the voyage of an Aberdeen ship); and that at certain seasons there may be very great additions made to provisions by shooting the innumerable birds which flock near the vessels. The rest is chiefly notable for lively descriptions of whale fishing, and occasionally of the effects of rarified atmosphere in making long distances seem short, and the appearance of icebergs.

Phases of Faith. By F. W. Newman. John Chapman.

THE author describes the alteration of his Creed as he advanced in years, from a youthful belief in Scripture and Christianity, till he denied the Bible from beginning to end and all the foundations of Christianity. What he still calls his *Credo* it is impossible to say, for we cannot understand the *Credo* of a man who believes in nothing. Wavering, sceptical, and at last infidel; he is simply prevented by a sort of mystical spiritualism from utter atheism. In this volume, he frankly tells us how he went on from doubt to doubt, till there was nothing left for him to doubt any more; and so he is now contented, laughing at the Christian faith, and holding the Bible up as a tissue of falsehood and imposture from Genesis to Revelation.

The Book of North Wales, &c. By C. F. Cliffe. Longmans.

Tours in North Wales, with its new and important attractions, will probably be numerous this season, and to all who contemplate such an excursion we cordially recommend this very superior guide. It is clearly and well arranged, and its useful contents are improved by excellent descriptions of scenery and interesting notices of antiquities. It has a good map, and we could not point to a better book for its pleasant purposes.

A Devotional Exposition of the Book of Psalms. By the Rev. J. Edwards, M.A. Darling, Edinburgh. Chisholm.

THE argument of every Psalm is queer, and also a paraphrase, with suggestive remarks and parallel passages from the Scriptures. The paraphrastic words are in Roman type, and the text in italics, so that the whole is distinctly understood at a glance, and the author's literary and pious labours made plain, to be consulted with advantage.

The Bible History of the Holy Land. By John Kitto, D.D. Knight.

PART VI. of this republication of the National Library of Select Literature completes the interesting portion which the title denotes. It forms a double-columned octavo of 496 pages. Of its merits, as a learned and scriptural composition, it would be superfluous to say a word.

Sermons. By Joseph Sornain, A.B. 8vo. Brighton: Folthorp. London: Longmans.

No fewer than twenty-three discourses of deep evangelical piety and feeling. The most curious to us is the Sermon on the Hieroglyphics of Scripture, which Mr. Sornain treats in a novel and original manner.

Lincoln's Inn and its Library. By W. H. Spilsbury. Pickering.

A USEFUL guide to any visitor enabled to see Lincoln's Inn, and particularly the library, of which the author is the keeper. Without being remarkable, it possesses a few rare and curious books and some MSS.

ARTS AND SCIENCES.

ROYAL INSTITUTION.

May 3rd.—Prof. Baden Powell "On Optical Phenomena in Astronomy." The phenomena illustrated comprised a certain description of appearances presented by the heavenly bodies under particular circumstances; to explain which optical causes have been applied, but hitherto conjecturally. These appearances are—the difference between the actual and apparent diameters of the sun, moon, and planets, also of the fixed stars in a modified sense—the peculiarities of an annular eclipse, known as beads and threads; a case analogous to which is observed in the transit of Mercury or Venus, the body of the planet apparently joined to the edge of the sun by a dark neck, which breaks when the planet has entered a short way—the projection of a star, as sometimes observed in an occultation, the star being seen actually upon the disc of the moon. After briefly alluding to these several phenomena, without reference to their causes, Prof. Powell described certain optical principles, which may supply something like an explanation; but first stating that all these phenomena have been observed by some with some telescopes and not by other observers and telescopes under the same circumstances. This fact, he said, seemed to point to an ocular cause, and this he believed may be found true. He did not, however, yet pretend to come to the real explanation; and to whatever extent a personal cause may explain the phenomena, one thing is certain, namely, that one telescope will show them and not another to the same observer, both telescopes being equally good. And, farther, experiment inclines to the optical cause rather than to the physiological, the same effect is produced in the artificial eye—the camera, and has been photographically depicted. The optical cause was explained to be the diffraction of the object glass; and Prof. Powell considers diffraction and irradiation to be one and the same phenomenon, and that the same property may produce the beads, neck, and the other appearances above-mentioned. In conclusion, Prof. Powell drew attention to a simple but mysterious property of light, namely, its propagation through space: the uniform rate at which it comes to our eyes, without reference to either the undulatory or the corpuscular theories, whether by waves or particles, the rate is exactly the same, as proved by aberration, for all the heavenly bodies. Nothing disturbs, no cause interferes with this law, and the contemplation of it must immensely exalt our ideas of Divine Intelligence.

May 17th.—Mr. Wharton Jones "On the Senses and on Errors of Observation having their Source therein." As it is alone through the medium of the senses that we gain our knowledge of external material objects, it is of the highest importance, in order to make observations correctly, to know what the senses are competent to inform of on the one hand, and what errors may have their source in them on the other. All that we are informed of, by any sense, in regard to external objects is, the change of state of the nerve, of sense caused by the impression made on it by the external object. Of this change of state of the nerve the mind is rendered conscious by a sensation.

The sensation of which we are conscious as a result of an impression on a nerve of sense, it is to be particularly remarked, is not any quality of the external object which makes the impression, though in common language we speak as if it were. Thus the sensation which we experience in consequence of an impression on the eye, we call *light*, and the external agent which commonly causes the impression we also call *light*. But the sensation of light, and the external agent which by its impression on our optic nerve, excites in

* Should have preceded the report of Dr. Mantell's discourse last week, but gave way in the making up.—Ed. L. G.

us the sensation, are totally different things. What has now been said of the optic nerves and their sensations is equally applicable to the other nerves of sense and their sensations.

Each nerve of sense, in short, is capable of communicating to the mind one particular kind of sensation only, whatever be the nature of the agent which impresses it. Though the sensation peculiar to a nerve of sense may thus be excited by the impression on the latter of various external agencies, it is important to observe that certain external agents do stand in a specific relation as regards action to certain nerves of sense, and call forth, by their impression, the sensations peculiar to them in the most intense manner. The external agent light stands in such a relation to the optic nerves.

An organ of sense consists, essentially, of a proper nerve, one extremity of which is connected with the brain, the other extremity with an apparatus at the surface of the body fitted to transmit to the nerve the external agent which is to make the impression on it. For this purpose the apparatus of each organ of sense is constructed in special adaptation to the physical nature of the external agent which it has to transmit to the nerve, the external agent, viz., which stands in the specific relation just referred to, of exciting the sensation peculiar to the given nerve of sense in the most intense manner. In the case of the sense of vision, the agent to be transmitted to the nerve is light, and the apparatus is consequently an optical one. If there had not been a convergent optical apparatus in front of the retina we should have seen merely a uniformly luminous field.

In the exercise of vision we refer the sensation to without, and to some distance from the body. This perception of externality or outness, by means of vision, Mr. Jones believed to be owing to an original innate endowment of the optic nervous apparatus, and to be altogether independent of experience through the touch; and, in illustration of this, he called attention to the well-known fact that persons who have had the misfortune to lose a leg sometimes feel as if the lost limb were still in connection with the body and that its great toe was the seat of pain.

Solidity, or the three dimensions of length, breadth, and thickness, though it cannot be perceived except in appearance by one eye, can be perceived by two eyes as certainly as it can be by means of active touch, i. e., by moulding the hand around a solid object. Mere contact, like vision by one eye, enables really only to perceive length and breadth. The faculty of perceiving solidity by means of two eyes implies the faculty of recognising relatively different distances by the same means.

The next points in the history of the senses which came under consideration, were after-sensations, and subjective sensations. Subjective sensations are such as are altogether independent of the impression of any external object on the sense; but are the result of irritation of the nerves of sense, from causes operating within the nerves themselves. Besides such subjective sensations, there is another class which have their origin in the reaction of the mind on the senses—to this class belong phantasms. Phantasms occurring in persons of strong mind and cultivated intellect, are recognised as such. In persons of uncultivated intellect, they have no doubt been the origin of many ghost stories; whilst in persons of weak intellect, though not otherwise insane, they may lead to hallucinations, prompting to insane actions. On phantasms has been founded a belief in second sight. The pretension to the faculty of seeing to read with the prints of the fingers, &c., was declared to be physically and morally impossible; and *clairvoyance*, if it had anything in it at all, not to have anything more in it than second sight or dreams.

In conclusion, it was remarked that, whilst in natural science the ultimate relations contemplated are cause and effect; in abstract science the notion of cause does not enter, its truths being necessary and independent of any cause. The existence of deity was instanced as an abstract truth, but that we are taught a more full knowledge of God by the book of his works and the Book of his Word.

ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY.

May 13th.—Capt. W. H. Smyth, R.N., President in the chair. Read:—1. Mr. Macqueen's explanatory Notes to his South African Paper. 2. Major H. C. Rawlinson "On recent Geographical Discoveries in Babylonia." Major Rawlinson having consented to read the second portion of his valuable paper on a subsequent occasion, the meeting was adjourned to the anniversary on the 27th inst., when the annual address will be delivered.

ROYAL INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS.

At the meeting on the 13th, the Royal Medal was presented to Mr. Barry, by Professor Cockerell, who took the chair in consequence of the absence of the President from erysipelas. The Rev. Mr. Hartshorne read a paper on the "Military Architecture of Great Britain." The Report of the Council stated the Institute to consist of 340 members of all classes, and that 136*l.* 5*s.* had been added to the funds. It also highly commended the probable results of the Exhibition of 1851.

MINIATURE POND FOR GOLD FISH.

The following "notice of observations on the adjustment of the relations between the Animal and Vegetable Kingdoms, by which the vital functions of both are permanently maintained," will be found briefly referred to in our reports of the proceedings of the Chemical Society. But the communication is of such general interest, that we gladly avail ourselves of a presentation copy, and transfer to our columns the details of Mr. Warrington's experimental investigation. It has been carried on for nearly twelve months, and appears, as Mr. Warrington observes, "to illustrate, in a marked degree, that beautiful and wonderful provision which we see every where displayed throughout the animal and vegetable kingdoms, whereby their continued existence and stability are so admirably sustained, and by which they are made mutually to subsist, each for the other's nutriment, and even for its indispensable wants and vital existence. The experiment has reference to the healthy life of fish preserved in a limited and confined portion of water. It was commenced in May, 1849, and the subjects chosen were two small gold-fish. These were placed in a large glass receiver of about twelve gallons capacity, having a cover of thin muslin stretched over a stout copper wire, bent into a circle, placed over its mouth, so as to exclude, as much as possible, the sooty dust of the London atmosphere, without, at the same time, impeding the free passage of the atmospheric air. This receiver was about half filled with ordinary spring water, and supplied at the bottom with sand and mud, together with loose stones of larger size of limestone tufa, from the neighbourhood of Matlock, and sandstone; these were arranged so that the fish could get below them, if they wished so to do. At the same time that the fish were placed in this miniature pond, a small plant of the *Vallisneria spiralis* was introduced, its roots being inserted in the mud and sand, and covered by one of the loose stones, so as to retain the plant in its position. The *Vallisneria spiralis* is one of those delicate aquatic plants generally selected by the microscopist for the exhibition of the circulation of the sap in plants. It throws out an abundance of long, wiry, strap-like leaves, of about $\frac{1}{2}$ inch in breadth, and from 1 to 3 feet in length; these leaves, when the sun shines on them, evolve a

continued stream of oxygen gas, which rises in a current of minute bubbles, particularly from any part of the leaf which may have received an injury.

"The materials being thus arranged, all appeared to go on well for a short time, until circumstances occurred which indicated that another and very material agent was required to perfect the adjustment. The circumstances arose from the internal decay of the leaves of the *Vallisneria*, which became yellow from having lost their vitality, and began to decompose; this, by accumulation, rendered the water turbid, and caused a growth of mucus, or green, slimy matter on the surface of the water, and on the sides of the receiver. If this had been allowed to increase, the healthy life of the fish must have suffered, and probably their vital functions have been destroyed. The removal of these decaying leaves from the water, therefore, became a point of permanent importance to the success of the experiment. To effect this, Mr. Warrington had recourse to a very useful little scavenger, whose beneficial functions have been too much overlooked in the economy of animal life,—the water-snail, whose natural food is the very green, slimy growth, or mucus and decaying vegetable matter, which threatened to destroy the object which was wished to be obtained. Five or six of these creatures—the *Limnaea stagnalis*—were consequently introduced, and, by their continued and rapid locomotion and extraordinary voracity, soon removed the cause of interference, and restored the whole to a healthy state, thus perfecting the balance between the animal and vegetable inhabitants, and enabling both to perform their vital functions with health and energy.

"So luxuriant was the growth of the *Vallisneria* under these circumstances, that, by the autumn, the one solitary plant that had been originally introduced, had thrown out myriads of off-shoots and suckers, thus multiplying to the extent of upwards of thirty fine strong plants; and these threw up their long, spiral, flowering stems in all directions, so that, at one time, more than forty blossoms were counted lying on the surface of the water.

"The fish have been lively, bright in colour, and appear very healthy, and the snails also—judging from the enormous quantity of gelatinous masses of eggs which they have deposited on all parts of the receiver, as well as on the fragments of stone—appear to thrive wonderfully, and, besides their functions in sustaining the perfect adjustment of the series, afford a large quantity of food to the fish in the form of the young snails, which are devoured as soon as they exhibit signs of vitality and locomotion, and before their shell has become hardened.

"Thus we have that admirable balance sustained between the animal and vegetable kingdoms, and that in a liquid element. The fish, in its respiration, consumes the oxygen held in solution by the water as atmospheric air; furnishes carbonic acid; feeds on the insects and young snails; and excretes material well adapted as a rich food to the plant, and well fitted for its luxuriant growth.

"The plant, by its respiration, consumes the carbonic acid produced by the fish, appropriating the carbon to the construction of its tissues and fibre, and liberates the oxygen in its gaseous state to sustain the healthy functions of the animal life, at the same time that it feeds on the rejected matter, which has fulfilled its purposes in the nourishment of the fish and snail, and preserves the water constantly in a clear and healthy condition,—while the slimy snail, finding its proper nutriment in the decomposing vegetable matter and minute coniferoid growth, prevents their accumulation by removing them from the field, and, by its vital powers, converts what would otherwise act as poison, into a rich and

fruitful nutriment, again to constitute a pabulum for the vegetable growth, while it also acts the important part of a purveyor to its funny neighbours."

LITERARY AND LEARNED. UNIVERSITY INTELLIGENCE.

OXFORD, May 18.—The Rev. G. B. Norman, M.A., of Trinity College, Cambridge, was admitted *ad eundem*, and the following degrees were conferred:—
Masters of Arts.—The Rev. L. R. Hamilton, grand compo-
pounder; Rev. W. Vincent, Christ Church; Rev. S. Poole, Pembroke; Rev. E. M. Watts, Lincoln; Rev. T. J. Hearn, fellow of New College; J. J. S. Wharton, St. Mary Hall; Rev. E. S. James, postmaster, Rev. J. W. Bramah, Merton College.

Bachelors of Arts.—T. A. Marshall, New Inn Hall; G. W. Murray, A. S. Latter, Queen's College; A. Blomfield, G. Russell, G. W. Boase, scholar, H. Fowler, Exeter College; C. F. Bode, R. T. Branson, M. F. Grignon, and W. Gay, scholars, Pembroke; W. Stackhouse, clerk, J. B. Bowen, Worcester; M. J. Conolly, H. A. Bosanquet, G. F. Luttrell, J. Board, J. B. Burne, Christ Church; T. G. Barker, F. G. S. Lumsdaine, H. P. Liddon, students of Christ Church; H. Whitehead, R. B. Brien, scholar, Lincoln; H. M. Batty, J. Kaye, postmasters of Merton; F. T. Coington, fellow, H. Wadham, scholar of Christ Church; H. Parker, M. Day, scholar, T. W. O. Hallward, E. Bowen, University; W. H. Curtler, scholar, W. R. J. Dickson, Trinity; W. E. Downes, Wadham; M. S. Yeatman, W. King, J. E. Burnet, H. B. Clissold, Oriel; W. K. B. Briscoe, scholar, J. Davies, J. D. Jenkins, fellow, R. Jones, Jesus; J. Ambery, scholar, H. Padwick, J. Walker, Brasenose; C. S. Currier, J. St. John Munt, W. H. Coway, Balliol.

Bachelor of Music.—Rev. Sir F. Ouseley, Bart., M.A., Christ Church, grand compo-
pounder.

CAMBRIDGE, May 15.—*Doctor in the Civil Law*.—W. Wright, Trinity College.

Masters of Arts.—P. A. Longmore, Emmanuel College; C. J. Monk, Trinity College; J. S. Smith, Trinity Hall.

Bachelors of Arts.—F. C. Leeson, W. Shipman, St. Catharine's Hall; C. G. M'Pherson, St. Peter's College; E. H. Rogers, scholar of King's College; H. J. Simonds, E. B. Vance, fellows of King's College; M. Tierney, Trinity College; A. N. Trevelhan, Emmanuel College.

Admission ad eundem gradum.—T. Blackburne, M.A., Brasenose College, Oxford.

ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY.

April 20th.—Professor H. H. Wilson, in the chair. Read, a paper "On Human Sacrifice as an element of the ancient Religion of India." In the first book of the *Ramayana* there is a legend to the effect that Sunahsepa, son of the rishi Kichika, was sold by his father to Ambariksha, King of Ayodhya, to supply the place of a sacrificial victim which had been stolen by the god Indra. Sunahsepa was accordingly conveyed to the place of sacrifice, and bound; but on his repeating certain verses he was liberated, and long life was conferred upon him by Indra. In this legend it is doubtful whether an actual or typical sacrifice was intended. The reference made to sacred verses naturally led to the inference that such verses would form a part of the hymns in the *Rig Veda*, attributed to Sunahsepa; but, except in one or two doubtful passages, these hymns bear no relation to the legend as narrated in the *Aitareya Brahmana*, which is considered to be the *Brahmana* portion of the *Rig Veda*. According to this legend, Harischandra, a prince of the race of Ikshwaku, on the advice of the sage Narada, prayed to the deity Varuna for a son, promising to present him as an offering to that divinity. A son, Rohita, was accordingly born to the king; but when the god, from time to time, demanded the performance of the promise, the king evaded his claims under various pretexts, until Rohita had grown up, when he informed his son of his intention to sacrifice him to Varuna. But Rohita, taking his bow, set off to the forest. During his sixth year in the forest he met the sage Ajigarta, of whom he purchased his second son, Sunahsepa, for a hundred cows, and then proceeded to his father, saying, "Rejoice, for with this youth I shall redeem myself." The god Varuna accepted the substitution. The sacrifice was accepted, and Ajigarta, the father of the victim, undertook, for a further reward, to bind him to the stake and put him to death. But at this juncture Sunahsepa addressed certain prayers to the different gods, which were ac-

cepted, and he was set free. Sunahsepa then placed himself by the side of Viswamitra, who was one of the officiating priests. Ajigarta now claimed his son, but Viswamitra said that the gods had given Sunahsepa to him as a son; but Sunahsepa upbraided his inhuman father, and repudiated him. Viswamitra then constituted Sunahsepa his eldest son, and called upon his other sons, one hundred in number, to recognise him as their senior. The fifty younger acquiesced, but the fifty elder refused; whereupon, Viswamitra cursed the disobedient ones and their offspring, and from these have descended the Andhras, Pundras, and other barbarous tribes.

Upon this narrative, Professor Wilson observed that the sacrifice of human victims is thus fully established at the period of the compilation of the *Brahmana*. How far that expresses the practice of the *Veda* period may admit of question. It is the received opinion of Hindu writers that the *Brahmana* is an integral portion of the *Veda*, containing the precepts, or doctrinal part, as distinguished from the Mantra, or hymns; nevertheless, a very cursory examination of these writings affords sufficient evidence to deny the accuracy of this attribution. The *Aitareya Brahmana*, for instance, is a work of a totally different era and system. The manner in which it quotes the hymns shows that these must have been collected and arranged long anterior to its compilation; and it cannot be taken as an authority for the oldest and most genuine system of Hindu worship. In fact, the *Brahmana* contains the Brahmanical system fully developed, and a variety of institutions and practices, of which only faint and questionable indications can be found in the Mantras. They must be recognised, however, as an essential part of the *Veda* and scriptural authority of the Brahmins, and as an authentic representation of an ancient, though not the most ancient, religious and social system of India. Their age is, as usual with all Hindu chronology, a difficult question. They are probably anterior to the *Ramayana* and *Mahabharata*, and, perhaps, not far from the period of the oldest passages of the laws of Menu. Upon the whole, their period may be placed about five centuries B.C. They may, therefore, be taken as qualified authorities for showing that human sacrifices existed among the primitive practices of the Hindus, though not to the same extent as among other ancient nations. The paper then entered into some details of the object and character of human sacrifices among other nations, many of whom, like the Hindus of a later date, made them practically vicarious, the human victim being bound, but some animal offered in its stead. There is no doubt that, even in later times, human victims have been sacrificed to the dark forms of Siva and Durga, but these offerings were of a very different character from those which might, on rare occasions, have taken place under the authority of the Vedas, and which originated in a common feeling and faith diffused throughout most civilized nations in the remotest periods of antiquity.

SYRO-EGYPTIAN SOCIETY.

May 14th.—Dr. John Lee, in the chair. A paper was read, being further arguments by Mr. W. Cox Dautrey, author of a work called the "Bible in Palestine," to show that the Crucifixion took place, in all probability, in the upper part of the Valley of Jehosaphat, or of the brook Kedron, north of Jerusalem, and not on a mount as has hitherto been supposed.

Miss Fanny Corbux exhibited a comparative diagram of the levels along a line from Cairo to Suez, by the valley of the ancient canal, showing the nature of the errors in the survey of 1799, and their rectification by the operations of 1847. She explained in what respects her former views on the ancient physical geography of the district, based on the levels of 1799, required revision from these corrections, and entered into some detail

supplementary to her remarks in the *Athenæum* of April 27th, on the deficiency of positive physical evidence in the French *ingénieur's* report towards clearing up the remaining difficulties. For instance, in sounding the bed of the canal between the bitter-lake basin and the sea, he found geological proof that it never had been sunk lower than three feet below high water mark; thus it could not have been navigable unless its water were supplied from the lake, the level of this being raised, at every inundation, considerably above the sea. Yet, though the highest line of littoral remains which he observed does not exceed the level of the spring tides by his measurement, he neither remarked the coincidence nor sought for any in a higher position to sustain his conclusion that the sea never occupied that basin in historical times. Miss C. pointed out that similar beaches had been found, in 1799, at various and higher levels; one, half way up the basin, was fixed at a level which the rectified scale of 1847 transfers to eight or ten feet, and another, near the Serapeum, to eighteen feet above the sea; and this latter Miss C.'s diagram showed to be exactly the reach of the Nile in that part, being the level actually attained at the stone of Moakfar during the accidental irruption of 1800. From the perplexing coincidence of these remains with the level of the river, when, to square with the geographical theory as well as with the general statements of their observers as to their marine nature, they ought to be even with the sea; and of those found by the *ingénieur* at the level of the sea, when his conclusion that the sea never occupied the basin in historical times, requires that they should be even with the river, and from his never even having examined them to ascertain whether they were of freshwater or marine species, Miss C. urged the importance of ascertaining the following points, as the only conclusive evidence towards elucidating the historical and geographical difficulties of this region, but especially as regards the extent of the Red Sea at the Exodus, since the evidence of both surveys was uncertain:—Whether the beaches of 1847 were recent and marine, and fixed in a corresponding sandy and saline soil; whether similar beaches existed at higher levels, testifying of elevation at some remote historical period, in which case the test of sounding the sands about Arsinoë would yield uncertain conclusions; whether any such marine remains were overlaid by a mixed soil partly derived from a former sea, partly from the Nile, and containing such freshwater remains as the lake, when refilled by the river, would leave on its shores or wash down into its depths; whether the superior beaches of 1799 consist of the latter; whether others similar can be found under the loose drift sand on the shores of the basin; whether the canal has emptied into it long enough to form a sensible delta-like deposit at the upper end, when it could be ascertained, by the mixture of remains, whether it flowed firstly into a sea, and only afterwards into a fresh lake; or, whether no recent sea ever occupied that basin, as some contend? Miss C. concluded by urging every member of the Society, who had correspondents in Egypt, to recommend this question to the notice of all scientific travellers who might hereafter propose visiting those parts.

Mr. D. W. Nash read a paper on the name of Artaxerxes, which, he contended, did not contain the name Xerxes as a component element. The name of Artaxerxes on the vase in the treasury of St. Mark's, at Venice, *Arta-koharasha*, was written after the Greek pronunciation of the word. The etymology given by Herodotus shows that he thought the word Xerxes, in each name, signified "warrior," *agyas*; but the Persian *Artakshatra* does not contain the name of Xerxes, *Kshayarasha*. Mr. Nash contended that the Persian cuneiform inscription on the Venice vase really reads *Artakshatra*, according to the suggestions of

Westergaard that the last letter of the name is intended for the compound articulation *thr*, and that the corruption of the name into *Arda-khachasha*, as read by Major Rawlinson, does not exist. That the true name of Artaxerxes is preserved in *Ardeshir*, is probable from the circumstance that the Persians rendered or translated the termination Xares of Cyaxares by the same word *Kshatara*. The legend on the Egyptian vase, following the royal name, which has never been satisfactorily translated, Mr. Nash showed to be *Hnaa phi naa*, answering to the "*naha wazarka*" of the Persian. *Hnaa* he compared to the Babylonian *Kina*, "a lord," and read the legend, "the great lord."

LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

Monday.—Geographical, 1 p.m. (Anniversary).—Chemical, 2 p.m.—Medical, 8 p.m.
Tuesday.—Historical, 3 p.m.—Medical and Surgical, 8 p.m.—Civil Engineers' (President's Soiree)—Zoological, 9 p.m.
Wednesday.—Society of Arts, 8 p.m.—Royal Botanic, 8 p.m.
Thursday.—Royal, 8 p.m.—Antiquaries, 8 p.m.
Friday.—Royal Institution, 8 p.m.
Saturday.—Asiatic, 2 p.m.

ARCHÆOLOGY.

ANTIQUARIES OF SCOTLAND.

May 6th.—The first communication was a notice by Dr. William Walker, of the discovery of an ancient pair of jougs, found imbedded in the trunk of an old ash tree recently blown down at the churchyard-gate, Applegirth, Dumfriesshire, which was popularly known by the name of the Gorget Tree. The jougs, which were exhibited to the meeting, are of unusual form, and had the chain and staple attached. The tree was of great girth, and believed to be above 300 years old.

The Secretary then read a notice of remarkable discoveries recently made on the Castlehill of Edinburgh, in the course of excavating for a new reservoir. Entirely below the foundations of the most ancient wall, the excavators came upon a bed of clay, and beneath this, a thick bed of moss, or decayed animal and vegetable matter, in which was found a copper coin of the Lower Empire, in good preservation, now produced; and under this moss were found two very remarkable oak coffins. They were each hewn out of a solid trunk of oak, and having a circular hollow roughly cut out for the head similar to what is usually seen in stone coffins of the 12th and 13th centuries. One of them contained a female skeleton, and the other, it is believed, a male one. But the bones were greatly decayed, and the coffins were unfortunately disturbed and broken to pieces before they could be properly examined by competent persons. Though this discovery has excited no great notice, few more remarkable disclosures have been recently brought to light, bearing on our civic and historical archaeological annals. Only one other such example has ever been known to occur in England. The coffin in this case lay north and south, and both the tumulus and contents leave no room to doubt of its Pagan origin. The examples found on the Castlehill probably belong to a later era. They lay east and west, and were unaccompanied by weapons or other Pagan relics; though beside them were found the scarcely less interesting objects now produced—large antlers of deer, the skull of a deer, and other relics, apparently of the chase. Such are frequently found both in cists and tumuli, and were doubtless designedly placed in the grave.

The coffins under such a mass of animal and vegetable matter may possibly indicate the site of an ancient burial place of the first native tribes that built their huts around the rude primitive ramparts of the Castle. Not the least remarkable fact which this discovery reveals, is the accumulation of upwards of twenty feet of artificial soil on this elevated site, and with buildings

apparently of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, built above the foundations of still older edifices, and the graves of primitive times. It suffices to show how little idea we can now form of the primitive, or even of the mediæval, topography of the Scottish capital; and encourages the hope that other and no less remarkable relics may yet be brought to light from beneath the more modern foundations of our ancient city.

Mr. David Laing next communicated a letter of James, Earl of Perth, written in 1675, furnishing a singularly graphic picture of the predatory habits of the Highlanders at that date; and also an old document containing an obligation by John Campbell, then prisoner under sentence of death, to undertake the office of executioner in the Stewartry of Strathern in 1675, was further illustrated by another document, of more recent date, produced by Mr. C. K. Sharpe, consisting of a transcript of the town of Perth's obligation, granted for the use, from James, Lord Drummond, of Donald MacCarie, executioner, in 1706.

The last communication was from Professor Munch, of Christiania, containing very ample notices of the various romances translated, chiefly from the French, into Norwegian, in the 13th and 14th centuries, and in particular, of one Norwegian Romance of the 13th century, containing some curious allusions to Edinburgh.

FINE ARTS.

ROYAL ACADEMY.

No. 301, *Andromeda*, *W. E. Frost*, is, to our taste, even a more charming picture than the *Cupid Disarmed*, although not so much of a subject. It is very softly and very sweetly treated; and, as no force was requisite, the artist's gentle style is fully sufficient for the female form and loveliness. In nearly all the nude of this year's exhibition, we would, however, observe, that there is an ivory-ness in the flesh-colouring which is neither the pearly hue of the great Italian masters, nor, what is superior to that exquisite tone, the truth of nature in its varied hues of transparent white, vermeil, and carnation.

No. 312, *Griselde*, from Chaucer. *A. Elmore*. The most patient of patient women, in our opinion far too patient to be a pattern to her sex, is here, at the end of her tyrannical trials, employed in the lowest drudgery, and about to be restored to her rank. It is clear in execution, and takes its rank more nearly as a *genre* than a poetical composition. No. 526, *The Queen of the Day*, is another not unfavourable specimen of the brilliancy which Mr. Elmore can impart to his performances.

No. 332, *Sancho Telling a Tale to the Duchess*, &c. *W. P. Frith*. No. 543, Mr. Honeywood introduces the Bailiffs to Miss Richland as his Friends. From *The Good-Natured Man*. The same. The last is somewhat Hogarthian in its humour, and realises the *ruse* in a very amusing manner, and with a fluent pencil. The Quixotte subject is more brilliant in treatment, but does not tell the story so accurately and forcibly. Some parts of it verge a little on caricature. The Duchess, and all that side of the picture, is far superior to the part where the redoubted Knight is placed.

No. 342, *Scene from the Tempest*. *F. Stone*. Always sweet and delicate, yet true in tone, this conception of Miranda is one of Mr. Stone's happy performances. Let us look back on the *Gardener's Daughter*, No. 135, for another gratifying specimen, with more of female *physique* in its beauty, accompanied by grace, than in the ideal Miranda.

No. 350, *James II. in Whitehall* receiving the News of the Landing of the Prince of Orange. *E. M. Ward*. The text of Dalrymple's valuable *Memoirs* is followed in this historical work, which though not perhaps, as a finished painting, an improvement upon some of the artist's preceding productions, is still one of great merit, and not

unworthy of his reputation. The principal figure, the King, is expressively done, and the action of the Queen, in pointing to their son, the Prince of Wales, full of conjugal and maternal feeling. The other parties of the Court, the Priests and Jeffries, and the bonny ladies are effectively grouped; and the spy courtier slinking off behind the curtain is a nice bit of character.

No. 369, Cromwell Looking at the Dead Body of Charles I. *P. Delaroche*. We have heard others praise, and that highly too, a picture which appears to us vulgar, and (for such a subject) without expression or interest. Cromwell is a stout thickset brewer or butcher; and, whichever way we view the act (that of looking on the corpse of his murdered sovereign), destitute of the passion, whatever it might be, that prompted it; for there is neither compunction nor exultation, but rather a stolid look, as if he came there to be painted, and nothing else. To the breadth and simplicity of the treatment and the sobriety of the colouring much praise is due.

No. 376, Escape of Francesco Novello di Carrara, &c. *J. C. Hook*. A spirited and well-coloured piece, with considerable richness in tone, and the grouping effective. No. 503, A Dream of Venice, has yet greater breadth and beauty. Both do much credit to an artist who has, as yet, no first letter of the alphabet after his name.

No. 389, The Messenger Announcing to Job the Irruption of the Sabaeans. *P. F. Poole*. There is some grandeur in the style of this production. The colour, the atmospheric effects, the architecture, and the solemn position of the afflicted Patriarch between his two consoling friends, all contribute to this. But the action of the messenger is strained, and its influence on those to whom his dreadful tale is communicated is more dramatic than we can admire in a sacred subject. The tricks of art are more apparent than propriety and dignity of treatment; and where every thing ought to be most unaffected, there is, we think, the opposite error.

No. 425, Portraits. *J. E. Millais*. No. 504, Ferdinand Lured by Ariel, with nothing alluring, by the same; and No. 518, a nameless atrocity, supposed to represent a verse of Zechariah. A miserable carpenter's shop, with two children embracing in the front of the bench, and a naked distorted boy on the right side, are presented to us as high art: in which their is neither taste, drawing, expression, or genius. And yet this style pertains to an imitative School; the sooner which is sent back to the dryness and wretched matter-of-fact of old times will be the better. Such things are simply disagreeable, if not worse, and neither can be called the true end of the Fine Arts.

No. 486, Aholibah, from Ezekiel. *E. Armitage*. A sad mistake in choice and treatment; indeed, no treatment could reconcile us to the choice. There are merits in the ancient Eastern architecture. No. 252, Socialists. Not of an order to support Mr. Armitage's artistic character.

OLD WATER COLOURS.

Mr. DUNCAN has as usual a series of sweet landscapes. No. 111, animated with Gleaners, and 137, Hoop-shaving, a nice piece of rustic grouping. Nos. 214 and 292, Sheep-feeding on the Downs in a frosty morning, (and others) are pleasing and diversified specimens of his natural pencil.

Mr. W. C. Smith is also a numerous contributor, and of picturesque and agreeable scenes, beginning with No. 9, the Terrace at Haddon, and going on with Snowdon, the Lizard Light-house, Windsor, Ben Nevis, Cader Idris, the Mumbles in Swansea Bay, Greenwich, and other subjects as various as can well be imagined, and displaying much versatility of talent on all kinds of objects by sea and land.

No. 76, Vase of Flowers, *V. Bartholomew*, and other charming fruit and flower pieces.

Nos. 91 and 195, Lincoln Minster, *F. MacKenzie*: all in a similar style with his known ability.

No. 102, a Dead Pea Hen, *G. Rosenberg*, with other richly coloured fruit and other pieces.

No. 196, the Tempest, *H. Richter*.

No. 1, the Beacon, *J. Whichelo*. A fresco subject, cleverly remembered in water colours, and not an imitation. 178, on the Thames, a nice sketch; and one or more of foreign subjects.

Mr. J. Stephanoff: *genre* bits of much merit.

Mr. F. Tayler has some admirable representations of Dogs, Game, and Highland Cattle.

Mr. J. M. Wright, a nice scene from Don Quixote, and

No. 19, a well chosen and well painted view in Westmoreland, by *H. Gastineau*; and No. 70, Steamers waiting to enter Dover Harbour, may be instanced as one of his able productions, though we would prefer 82, the fine rich view of Dunkeld.

No. 144, a Garden, *F. O. Finch*. A landscape with twilight, and other meritorious paintings.

Among other praiseworthy contributors we have to name *W. Scott*.

A. Glennie, Italian landscape, 85.

W. Turner, chiefly in the North of England and Scotland, but an interesting view from Edgell.

Mr. P. Naftel: among them a Guernsey Kitchen, and several Welsh scenes.

Mr. David Cox, jun., treading in the best of footsteps that he could set before him in the way of pattern or model. Mr. C. Branwhite, including a Frosty Morning and a Dull Day. *John Callow*, *W. Evans*, *S. Palmer*, *J. J. Jenkins*, little familiar things, *Mrs. Cridle*, *F. Nash*.

Maria Harrison, fruit and flowers, and *Eliza Sharpe* and *G. Dodgson* must finish our catalogue.

Major Herbert Edwardes. Squire and Co.—An admirably striking likeness of this gallant officer has been excellently lithographed by J. H. Lynch, from the portrait by H. Moseley, which we noticed in No. 1732. The oriental costume has a fine effect, and the gorgeous beard imparts to our young countryman all the dignity of an Eastern Pasha, whose scimitar was sharp and his command not to be resisted. So he approved himself in Moulton, and the individual whom his Queen and Country have delighted to honour for his gallant deeds in arms is suited to make one of the most popular subjects of the time. Messrs. Squire are fortunate with it in every respect.

John Hullah, by T. H. Maguire, is another lithograph portrait just published, and as "music hath charms," so will this clever likeness have attractions for the lovers of music, and especially the many whom the master had educated to it.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

New York, April 26.

A VALUED correspondent has enclosed us an obituary of poor Thom, whose characters from Burns' Tam O'Shanter were exhibited in Bond-street some years ago. In his letter, our friend says, "he was universally respected, not only by all the old countrymen, but also by every American with the least pretension to taste." In another part of his letter, he remarks on the singular fact that there is no exhibition of the works of Water Colour Painters in America, and, in consequence of the National Academy of Design having refused to hang up any drawing in their new rooms this season at New York, an effort is making to form an Association of Water Colour Painters, to exhibit their works during the ensuing Autumn. When we look at the freshness and beauty of the London associations, we cannot doubt that a similar plan in America would be equally attractive and successful. For the sake of the art itself, it is very desirable that the example of the Mother Country

should be followed in this respect; especially where the talents of her descendants are so well able to sustain an honourable rivalry.

James Thom, the sculptor, expired on Wednesday. Mr. Thom came to this country from Scotland some 12 or 14 years ago, in pursuit of a person who had been previously sent over by the proprietors to exhibit his Tam O'Shanter and Old Mortality, but who, we believe, made no returns or report of his proceedings. Arriving in New York, he traced the delinquent—a fellow Scotchman, of some shrewdness and address—to this city, and here recovered, if we rightly remember, a portion of the money for which it appeared these admirable works had been sold, and transmitted it to the proprietors, who had been his benefactors, concluding to remain here himself to pursue his profession. In exploring the country in this vicinity for stone adapted to his purposes, he brought into notice the fine freestone quarry at Little Falls, which has since become so famous, having furnished the stone for the Court House in this city, Trinity Church in New York, and many other public buildings in various parts of the country. With this stone he reproduced the two groups already named, executed an imposing statue of Burns, and filled various orders for ornamental pieces for pleasure grounds. The copy of the Old Mortality group—including the pious old Presbyterian and his Pony, with the familiar presence of the immortal genius which made them the property of the universal mind—was sold, at a fair price, to the proprietors of Laurel Hill Cemetery, near Philadelphia, and is now the appropriate frontispiece of that spacious city of the dead. Tam O'Shanter and Souter Johnny keep "watch and ward" at the entrance of the hospitable mansion of Roswell L. Colt, Esq., at Paterson. Having by his talent and industry realised considerable profits, he purchased a farm near Ramapo, in Rockland county, on the line of the Erie Railroad, and gratified his fancy by putting up a house after one of his own conceptions. Since that time we have had no knowledge of his pursuits.—*Newark Ad.*

MUSIC.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

1. *The first dear thing that ever I loved*. Being the first part of a "Hymn of Boyhood." 2. *The last dear thing I was fond to love*. Being the second part of a "Hymn of Boyhood." Poetry by Arthur Cleveland Coxe, M.A. Music by Samuel Stephenson Greathead, M.A. Novello.

We are sorry to seem profane, but we cannot sing either of these "Hymns" without a chorus of our own; we mean a hearty laugh. From the name of the composer we imagined we should have a treat; but we scarcely expected so rich a one as these "Hymns" afforded us. We would not be bound to play or sing them again for California.

The old deserted Church. Sacred ballad. Poetry by George James Cooke. Composed by George Barker. Novello.

ONE of those charming ballads that, although without any very striking beauties, are universally admired.

Consider the Lilies of the Field. Sacred Song. Composed by J. Reekes. The same.

REDUCED price sixpence; and a really good sixpennyworth.

1. *Peace to Thee*: Ballad. 2. *Beneath thy Casement*: Serenade. 3. *No Form but Thine*: Canzonet for voice and pianoforte. The words by Wallbridge Lunn; the music by Henry Lunn. 4. *Let us be Joyous*: Ballad. 5. *Adieu, ye Woods*: Ballad. 6. *Gay Lark*: Ballad. Words by Wallbridge Lunn; Music by John Ashmore. Addison and Co.

WITH much deserving praise in the six ballads above-mentioned, we cannot pass them by without noticing their want of originality. We are far

from wishing to accuse Mr. Lunn or Mr. Ashmore of what is vulgarly called "cribbing," but it is really tiresome, in the ballads, after a few bars of original (q.) music to go into some popular air that has been played on every street organ. With the exception of this fashionable fault, these ballads will pass as very pretty; they are neatly arranged, and the poetry is better than is usually allotted to ballads.

See, Erin, a Vessel is Sailing. Written and composed by F. T. A. Chaluz de Vernevil. English words by Lionel Seymour.

NEITHER original, nor pretty, nor anything but commonplace.

The Oriental Quadrilles. By Ellen Glascock. Webb.

THESE are a delightful set of quadrilles. Miss Glascock is decidedly improving in her compositions; she only wants to mark her time a little more to be one of our best composers of polkas and quadrilles.

Davidson's Pianoforte Duets. Nos. 9 and 10. Davidson.

THIS publisher's music reaches us so irregularly that it is impossible to pay proper attention to it. Every serial issued from his press and sent to us for notice is incomplete. The two numbers of the Pianoforte Duets now before us, however, merit a word, as being generally very well arranged, and good for young folks.

Thou Gentle Breeze. Written by J. Lee Stevens, Esq. Composed by Adolphe Whitcombe. Shepherd and Jones.

THOUGH reminding us in some bars strongly of "A Soldier's Gratitude," and the "Rose of Alendale," the air of the song is exceedingly delightful, and the accompaniment varied and pleasing. We rather doubt whether the song will become popular, on account of the words; not that we find fault with them, but the *belles* and *beaux* of the present day have rather an objection to singing such words as "wantonly" and "am'rous."

No. 116 of the *Pianista*.

THIS is rather a late day to commence sending us the *Pianista*; therefore, we shall merely notice that this *solitary* number contains six songs from Halévy's opera, *Le Val d'Audorre*, which are neatly arranged.

Her Majesty's Theatre.—Madame Frezzolini, who has not been heard for some four or five years in London, made her *réentrée*, in the part of *Lucretia*, on Tuesday. Accounts of her singing at St. Petersburg led us to expect great things, but we find the lady as before, tasteful and delicate in style, with a voice sweet and of good compass; but, as a vocalist, not equal to fill our ideal of the lyric *Lucretia Borgia*, a part requiring endowments as well as study and execution, such as very few possess; want of power and grasp in the singing, and want of identifying with the character in the acting were discernible throughout the opera. One redeeming bit of feeling, however, at the close, in the exclamation, "un Borgia sei," to her son as he is about to stab her, was finely given; the beautiful "modi ad modi," though nicely sung, lacked pathos; to our judgment, Madame Frezzolini would be better in lighter parts. The new tenor, Sig. Baucarde, is not heard to advantage in the part of *Gennaro*. Mlle. Ida Bertrand acquitted herself well in that of *Orsini*, singing the well known "il segreto" with very good effect. We cannot recollect how many *encores* were awarded, nor how many "calls" saluted, nor the number of *bouquets* that showered upon the successful cantatrice: these things are in vogue just now, and do not concern art.

Royal Italian Opera, Covent Garden.—The *Roberto il Diavolo* was performed the first time this season on Thursday evening, with several novelties in the cast. The genuine display in this finest of the German school of operas, was certainly more perfect than during its last pro-

duction. *The Grand Concert* yesterday morning passed off with great success.

The Musical Union.—The fifth meeting was held on Tuesday. The programme contained two quartets, No. 79 in D (Haydn), and No. 9 in C, Op. 50, (Beethoven). Sebastian Bach's concerto in D minor, with quintet accompaniment, the pianoforte part by M. Silas, a native of Amsterdam, a young pianist, who played for the first time in London; and two pieces by the Hungarian vocalists. The executants were, as usual, Sainton, Deloffre, Hill, Piatti, and Howell. Haydn's quartet went off charmingly; it is simple and beautiful, yet, at the same time, it contains difficulties of every kind, enough to exhibit the skill of the players as well as the fine thoughts of the writer. The originality of the whole is striking, and shows clearly the model upon which numbers who have followed the immortal writer of the "Creation" have framed their ideas. The celebrated tenor solo, "cujus animam," of Rossini's "Stabat," is said to have been founded upon the largo of this quartet. The Beethoven quartet, wonderful as it is in design and construction, was played in an admirable and marvellous style of execution; it is especially one of those works requiring what is aptly called, interpretation. Hearing it thus, we had the satisfaction of feeling that justice is done to one of the greatest of music's geniuses, and that these fine compositions can no longer be ignorantly called "crude inventions of a disordered brain." The fugue with which it ends, so startling, so brilliant, so ingenious in its combinations and workings, was a truly astonishing performance; even after having listened to that of the great fugue master, Bach, it came out with surprising effect, and afforded the highest enjoyment. This leads us to speak very favourably of the new pianist, M. Silas; his powers of execution are of the fullest scope, and these are all to be well perceived in a fugue for the pianoforte; in the "romances sans paroles," of his own, which he gave afterwards, good taste and feeling were displayed, though without any remarkable intellectual treatment. The Hungarian's chorus, composed by Mendelssohn, is an interesting composition in imitation of Turkish music. It was well sung by the little band of singers, who are about to leave England. They will carry with them our best sympathies, both on account of their suffering country and their superiority to all the ordinary companies of strolling singers, Tyrolese and the like.

Signor Briccialdi's Matinée.—The second of this clever flautist's performances came off on Wednesday, and was a very pleasing entertainment. The flute, though one of the instruments most commonly chosen by amateurs, is imperfect in itself, and difficult to be played. Attempts have been made from time to time at improving it; the old wood flute, such for example as that so well made by Rudall and Rose, was first improved by Böhm in its wooden form, and called then the Böhm flute; it has since been still more altered, and made quite perfect as to the divisions of the sounds, so that a novice cannot play out of tune; it is now made entirely of metal, principally silver; the tube is of the same diameter throughout, and consists of two pieces. This instrument is called the new Böhm flute. There can be no disputing the great gain in power, clearness, and accuracy of tone; the question is whether the quality of tone (*timbre*), obtained from the wood instrument is not more desirable than that from the metal. In the orchestra the greatest variety of tone is requisite: if all the wood instruments were changed into metal ones, although the reeds were still used, the effect would be more or less monotonous. The Sicama flute possesses some of the good qualities of the Böhm flute, retaining that derived from the wood, though it is comparatively deficient in power and clearness. Signor Briccialdi

uses the new Böhm flute; his playing is quite of the first order, tasteful, and brilliant as possible in execution: he gave the "duo concertante" for piano and flute, (Kuhlau) op. 101, with Mlle. Coulon, who favoured us with a solo also. Piatti played a fantasia, and a Master Carrodus, pupil of Molique, made a very favourable impression in one of his master's pieces. Miss Bassano, Madame Anglois, Miss Noble, and M. Bardini assisted as vocalists.

Concerts of the Week.—The sixth Philharmonic, on Monday evening, was relieved somewhat from their usual tedium by a solo from Thalberg, and the singing of Herr Formes and Mlle. Nottes, a *débutante*. Madame Puzzi gave her annual *réunion* at the Concert Room of the Opera, on Monday, and a very brilliant affair it was. The music performed by the artists of Her Majesty's Theatre was all good; a "lied" sung by Sontag, with violoncello obligato by Piatti, was perhaps the gem. Thalberg played his *Don Giovanni fantasia*, and Signor Puzzi displayed his first-rate powers, as of yore, in solos on the horn. M. Godefroid, the celebrated harpist, gave his first morning concert at the new Beethoven Rooms, on Wednesday; in the evening, at St. Martin's Hall, Mr. Hullah directed the performance of Mendelssohn's "Lauda Sion," and some of the music of *Oberon*. On Thursday, Mr. Osborne gave his second *matinée* at Harley-street Rooms, which was well attended, and afforded some delightful classical music. On Friday, the Sacred Harmonic Society performed, for the last time, the *Israel in Egypt*, under Mr. Costa's direction.

THE DRAMA.

Théâtre Français, St. James's.—The comedy of *Le Mari à la Campagne* and Alfred de Musset's *comédie-vaudeville* of *Louison*, have been performed here with great success. The latter, on which the *Serious Family* produced at the Haymarket some months back is founded, has created quite a sensation, not less from its merit as a drama, than from the excellence in which the principal parts are played—that of the wife by Mlle. Nathalie—the husband by M. Regnier, and his intruding friend by M. Lafont. We have so often praised these artists, that to praise them again would be to reiterate well-deserved eulogy; but we cannot avoid especially noticing the admirable manner in which M. Regnier produces all the effect of a character part, without resorting to any of those peculiarities of dress and gesture which are, upon our own stage, considered as essential to the production of broad comic effects. The house was crowded on Wednesday evening to witness the performance of the above mentioned pieces.

Lyceum.—The *revues*, in a dramatic form, of passing events, which are occasionally produced with great success at the various Parisian theatres, appear to have suggested to Messrs. Albert Smith and Tom Taylor the *Whitsuntide* piece which they have contributed to our amusement here under the name of *Novelty Fair*. Plot and story are, of course, not to be expected in a piece of this character, and only such a slight dramatic form as is necessary to hang the various allusions and *tableaux* and witticisms upon. Time, discovered, on the rising of the curtain, in a state of great bewilderment at the present aspect of affairs, appeals to the various Annual Registers with which, beginning with the year one, the shelves of his library are filled. The chief characters and personations of the principal events of those years to which he particularly refers answer his call, including the year one—a decrepid child—Julius Cæsar, a Baron who helped to extort Magna Charta, Charles the First and Cromwell, and, finally, on his appealing to the "French Revolution," three years—1789, in the shape of a *poisarde*—1830, of a *bourgeoisie*, and 1848, of a *red republican*, start out simultaneously from their respective volumes, and, after them, the year 1851,

a fast young man seven months before his time, personated in a most quaint and appropriate dress by Mr. Charles Matthews, leads the way to the booth of the grand exposition where *Britannia* (Miss St. George) is discovered as money-taker, with the *British Lion* (Mr. Frank Matthews) crouching at her feet. Various ingenious contrivances, with *tableaux* of Spain, Italy, and France, are exhibited and commented on by the characters in a string of brilliant witticisms, and the piece concludes with a representation of the reverse of our coinage—*Britannia* seated, shown under the effect of coloured fires. *Novelty Fair* is not so elaborately or splendidly got up as the burlesques we have lately been accustomed to see here, but the aptness of its allusions to passing events, and the cleverness with which it is written, give it a character distinct from mere show. One of the best effects was the *tableaux* of a barricade, the fighting on which is interrupted by a dance of *Follies* and *Debardeurs*.

Sadler's Wells.—This theatre has closed for the summer, after a successful season characterised by a strict adherence to the principles of management, which have now for so many years been invariably carried out. New plays have been produced, and old ones revived or repeated, well acted and well got up; but the chief distinctive characteristic of the past season has been the rapid advance in public estimation made by Miss Glynn. The performances on Thursday evening were for the benefit of Mr. Greenwood, who deserved, and had, a house crowded with friends and supporters.

Strand Theatre.—Of all the theatrical performances going on at present in London, the farewell representations of Mrs. Glover demand most prominently the attention of the play-goer. During a career of fifty-three years on the London stage, there is scarcely a character, in the higher walks of both tragedy and comedy, which this lady has not played with success; and it is to be hoped that some method will be taken on the occasion of her leaving the stage to show, in a tangible shape, the public estimation of so old a favourite. Mrs. Glover has played this week *Old Lady Lambert*, and the *Widow Warren*, and the arrangement appears to be, that she shall perform for three nights each of the characters in which she is best known to the present generation of play-goers. On Monday evening, after the *Hypocrite*, a new piece, by the witty author of *Diogenes*, was produced with great success. It is called the *Philosopher's Stone*, and although written in rhyme, and interspersed with jokes, is more of a serious drama than a burlesque; indeed it is called by the author "a morality." Its object appears to be to inculcate the moral to be derived from a superabundance and bad use of wealth, by means of a story of which *Paracelsus* is made the hero. With renewed youth and gold at command, *Paracelsus*, finding himself unhappy, determines by a lavish distribution to place his fellow townsmen above the reach of poverty; but a distribution, so contrary to the laws of political economy, produces in the end, distress, disease, and famine, and it is only when he has experienced these, and has been taught by a poor flower-girl that labour is essential to content, that *Paracelsus* wins the happiness he has sought for. This moral is well worked out,—there is plenty of fun, but, occasionally, passages that rise far above mere burlesque rhymes, or the common places of declamation, give a high moral tone to the whole drama. The acting in the hands of Mrs. Stirling, Miss Marshall, Messrs. Compton and Leigh Murray, is excellent. The latter gentleman especially, in a part out of his legitimate line, shows his judgment and versatility, and gives, by the bye, a capital imitation of Mr. Chas. Matthews in *Used Up*. The piece is well got up, and the scenery, painted by Mr. Shalders, in-

cluding two beautiful gothic interiors, are the grand square at Basle, well designed and painted. We must not omit to notice the capital conduct of the "mob" on the various occasions it was required to be active and turbulent.

ORIGINAL POETRY.

ALCESTIS.

She goeth to her chamber,
And tears more swiftly flow,
And she cries, O bridal chamber,
The source of all my woe,
From thee, to gloomy Hades,
For him I love, I go,
O fair and virtuous lady,
Why perish in thy prime?
Why leave the glorious sunshine
And the budding joys of time,
What has strengthened thy weak bosom
With fortitude sublime?
Alas! for thee, Admetus,
Thy life on love depends,
There is not one will save thee
Of all thy gallant friends;
And she, thy bosom's idol,
To the dark grave descends.
Will not thy aged father,
Now tottering on the grave,
Nor she, O man, who bore thee,
From death untimely save?
Only the wife devoted
For thee the fate will brave.
She looketh on her children,
But her purpose changeth not,
Though the mother's heart is riven
With anguish for their lot;
And she prays that no dark malice
Her daughter's name may blot.
O daughter, my sweet daughter,
Thy beauty was my pride,
Thou wilt have no tender mother
To deck thee as a bride;
But remember for thy father
Thy own fond mother died.
She goeth to the window
On which the sunbeam's play;
All around is bright and joyous,
And seems to woo her stay;
And she gives her touching farewell
To the blessed light of day.
I die! my strength is failing,
No more the light I see;
The heart that knew no quailing,
Admetus, clings to thee!
Cease not my fate bewailing—
Farewell! Remember me!
The voice of Nature dies not,
It speaks from age to age;
It can move the hardy warrior,
It can melt the lonely sage;
Oh, that voice of Nature speaketh
In the Grecian poet's page.
It is a noble lesson
That olden tale supplies,
That love, the true, the tender,
Shrinks not from sacrifice;
And in the hour of danger
The stroke of death defies.
Affection is a fountain
Ever flowing on the earth,
For weary human nature
In its hour of saddest death;
Oh, the countless mournful bosoms
It has soled from their birth!
Flowers linger on a ruin,
On crumbling towers still wave,
Or bloom in the sad solitude
Of some forgotten grave;
So constant love abideth
When it lacks the power to save.

Cambridge, 1850.

ANNA H. POTTS.

VARIETIES.

The Barrow Monument.—The foundation stone of this grateful honour to the memory of the late Sir John Barrow was laid, as appointed, May 15th, on the summit of the Hill of Hoad, near his birth place, Ulverston. The whole country turned out to pay this tribute to departed worth, and the ceremony, as described at length in *Souley's Ulverston Advertiser*, was both splendid and affecting. Sir George Barrow and Mr. John Barrow, of the Admiralty (sons of the deceased secretary and author), were the chief persons who attracted the public attention on the occasion; and the latter

was especially recognised as the representative also of his father's literary talent.

Scribe and Halévy have been superintending the rehearsals of the *Tempest* during the week at Her Majesty's Theatre.

The *Arctic Expedition* encountered severe weather after leaving the Thames, but on Saturday morning the "Resolute" and "Assistance" were a mile off the land, on their way to the Pentland Firth.

The *University College Hospital* held its 17th anniversary on Thursday, at the London Tavern, where the Duke of Cambridge presided. Lord Brougham spoke, and a collection of 2,100*l.* (including 1,000*l.* from the Rev. Deacon Morrell, the treasurer,) was made. 20,533 poor persons had been relieved within the past year.

The *Orthopaedic Anniversary* walked off well; and, indeed, we may say, in spite of the distress so much complained of in the country, the charities of the metropolis are this year, upon the whole, liberally supported.

Mr. Dennett, reported dead all over, and from, the Isle of Wight, is not only living, but somewhat better in health.

"*Spread*" of Music.—Hertz, the pianist, has visited San Francisco, in California, and proposed to give a concert, but it failed for want of ladies.—*Times*.

The promised *Hippopotamus* from Egypt, accompanied by an *Ibex* from Sahara, and other rare animals and reptiles are now on their voyage to Southampton in the "Ripon." The unique stranger is said to be not full grown, docile, and much attached to its Arab keepers. If it come alive, it will be a very great acquisition to the Zoological Gardens.

The *Cremorne Gardens* have opened with favouring weather and attractive entertainment.

The *Town of Stagno*, in Dalmatia, is reported to have been destroyed by a stream of sulphurous water issuing from the earth, the locale of preceding shocks of earthquakes.

New Temperance Movement.—A Parisian medico, M. Chevalier, has devised a new mode of curing drunkenness, viz., by the police drenching every one caught *flagrante delicto* with a dose of acetate of ammonia in sugar and water.

Earthquake at Constantinople.—A slight shock was experienced on the 19th of April.

Iodine and Bromine.—It has been recently announced by M. Bussy, that the ammoniacal waters of gas manufactories contain iodine. This fact is confirmed by M. C. Mene, of the College of Chemistry of France, who has detected also, in the similar products, bromine, in quantities truly surprising.

LITERARY NOVELTIES.

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

- Abbott's (J.) *Life of William the Conqueror*, 12mo, cloth, 5s
Abbott's (J.) *Life of Hannibal*, 18mo, cloth, 1s
Agular's (Grace) *Woman's Friendship*, second edition, 12mo, cloth, 6s 6d
Arnold's *First French Book*, 12mo, cloth, 5s 6d
Bigby's (J. J.) *The Shoe and Canoe*, 2 vols, post 8vo, cloth, 24s
Chambers' *Papers*, Vol. II, 12mo, 1s 6d
Ciceronis *Cato Major*, with Notes and Index, by G. Long, 12mo, cloth, 4s 6d
Clark's (T. G.) *Hungarian Struggle*, 8vo, sewed, 2s 6d
Cobbold's (Rev. R.) *Freston Tower; or, Early Days of Cardinal Wolsey*, 3 vols, post 8vo, 11 11s 6d
Continental Tourist, 1st series, 8vo, cloth, 10s
Domestic Economist, 4to, cloth, 3s
Ellet's (Mrs.) *Family Pictures from the Bible*, 8vo, cloth, 5s
James's (G. F. R.) *Old Oak Chest*, 3 vols, post 8vo, 11 11s 6d
Lockhart's (James) *Nature of Roots of Numerical Equations*, 8vo, cloth, 2s
Nolan's (J. J.) *Ornamental Fowls*, 12mo, cloth, 3s
Oliver's *Masonic Writers*, Vol V., post 8vo, cloth, 7s
Pathogenetic Cyclopaedia, Vol I, 8vo, cloth, 18s
Seymour's (Rev. M. H.) *Mornings among Jesuits*, third edition, post 8vo, cloth, 7s
Simpson's (Rev. R.) *Memorials of Worth*, 18mo, cloth, 2s 6d
Smee's (A.) *Instinct and Reason*, 8vo, cloth, 18s
Spalding's (T.) *Memoirs of Miss Jane H. Place*, 12mo, 1s 6d
Taylor's (C. B.) *Earnestness*, 12mo, cloth, 7s
Yorke's *Poems from a Note Book*, square, cloth, 3s 6d

DENT'S TABLE FOR THE EQUATION OF TIME.
 [This table shows the time which a clock or watch should indicate when the sun is on the meridian.]

1850	h. m. s.	1850	h. m. s.
May 25	11 56 24.7	May 29	11 57 0.9
26	56 40.5	30	57 8.6
27	56 46.9	31	57 16.8
28	56 53.6		

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

To the Editor of the Literary Gazette.

Victoria Road, Kensington,
23rd May, 1850.

SIR,—I observe in your paper of last week the following statement, made by Mr. Reinagle, the painter, and late Royal Academician:—

"*En passant*, I may say that I wrote the Life of Ramsay in 'Cunningham's Lives of the Painters,' which he promised to state to the public; but this he always omitted to do, and received any merit which accrued from it as his own."

Now, sir, the two circumstances set forth as facts in the above statement are both utterly untrue. Mr. Reinagle, 'I may say,' and I can assure you from my own knowledge did not write the Life of Ramsay in 'Cunningham's Lives of the Painters,' and Allan Cunningham did not forget any promise he may have made to Mr. Reinagle, on the subject of a printed acknowledgment of the information he had afforded him, for I find at the end of Ramsay's Life, in the fifth volume of 'the Lives of British Artists,' the following note, sufficiently conspicuous:—

"For the most characteristic parts of this memoir, I am indebted to the kindness of Richard Ramsay Reinagle, Esq., R.A."

If Mr. Reinagle can make good his assertion that he wrote the Life of Ramsay in 'Cunningham's Lives of the Painters,' I shall then believe (but not till then) that he wrote the whole of the lives in the work referred to, for certainly the author of Ramsay's Life was the author of the Life of William Blake, and I am quite certain that Mr. Reinagle had no hand whatever in one of the most delightful pieces of biography in the English language.

It was the written opinion of Southey (as you will find in a future volume of Southey's Life by his Son), that the 'Lives of the British Artists,' by Allan Cunningham, are written in a style of very pure quality, such a style indeed as no other Scotchman, with the single exception of David Hume, has ever succeeded in attaining. When Southey wrote this, he was not aware that my father, in writing the 'Lives of the Painters,' had founded his style on Hume. 'Hume's History' was his constant study; the artless ease of his narrative was a frequent subject of remark with him.

I am, sir, yours, &c.,—PETER CUNNINGHAM.

An Exhibitor reached us too late for this Gazette.

Erratum.—In our number 1738, Stutfall Castle should be read for Stridfall, in the notice of Excavations, p. 327.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS,
TRAFALGAR SQUARE.

THE EXHIBITION OF THE ROYAL ACADEMY is now OPEN. Admission (from Eight o'clock till Seven) One Shilling—Catalogue One Shilling.

JOHN PRESCOTT KNIGHT, R.A., Sec.

SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS.

THE FORTY-SIXTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION is NOW OPEN at their Gallery, 5, Pall Mall East, from Nine till dusk.

Admission, One Shilling. Catalogue, Sixpence.

GEORGE FRIPP, Secretary.

THE NEW SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS.

THE SIXTEENTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION of the NEW SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS is NOW OPEN, at their Gallery, 53, Pall Mall, near St James's Palace, daily from 9 till dusk. Admission, 1s.

JAMES FAHEY, Secretary.

TALBTYPE PORTRAITS ON PAPER.

MESSRS. HENNEMAN and MALONE, 122, Regent-street, (Photographers to the Queen), take Portraits, even in dull weather, that may be coloured to resemble Miniatures. Copies of Portraits in Daguerrotypes, Oil or Water Colours; Pictures; Statuary; Prints; Rare Books; &c.

Apparatus, Chemicals, and Iodized Paper for Amateurs, with Instructions, gratis, sent to any part of the world. Photographs from different parts of the United Kingdom and the Continent for sale, on view (gratis) at 122, Regent-street.

M. BENEDICT'S GRAND ANNUAL

MORNING CONCERT under the immediate patronage of her Majesty the Queen, his Royal Highness Prince Albert, her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent, and their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge. M. Benedict begs respectfully to announce that his ANNUAL CONCERT will take place ON THE STAGE OF HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, ON FRIDAY MORNING, June 21, with the entire Chorus and Orchestra, on which occasion he will be supported by all the eminent artists of that establishment, including Mesdames Sontag, Frezolini, Parodi, Giuliani, Ida Bertrand, Miss Catherine Hayes, Signori Gardoni, Calzolari, Baucarde, Colletti, Belletti, F. Lablache, and Lablache, under the direction of Mr. Balfe. Piano, Messrs. Halle, Osborne, Lindsay Sloper, and Benedict; Violin, Messrs Ernst and Molique; Violoncello, Signor Piatto; and French Horn, M. Vivier. Engagements with other distinguished artists are pending.—Price of Admission: Boxes, Two, Three, and Four Guineas; Pit Stalls, 11. 1s.; Pit Tickets, 10s. 6d.; Gallery Stalls, 5s.; Gallery, 2s. 6d. Applications for Boxes, &c., to be made at the principal Libraries; Music Warehouses; the Box-office of her Majesty's Theatre; and to M. Benedict, 2, Manchester-square.

DIORAMA.

INDIA OVERLAND MAIL.—GALLERY OF

ILLUSTRATION, 14, Regent Street, Waterloo Place.—THREE EXHIBITIONS EACH DAY.—A GRAND MOVING DIORAMA, ILLUSTRATING THE ROUTE OF THE OVERLAND MAIL TO INDIA, depicting every object worthy of notice on this highly-interesting journey from Southampton to Calcutta, accompanied by descriptive detail, and appropriate Music, is now OPEN DAILY, Mornings at 12; Afternoon at 3; and in the Evening at 8 o'clock.—Admission, 1s.; Stalls, 2s. 6d.—Doors open half-an-hour previous to the above hours.—Descriptive Catalogues may be obtained in the rooms.

MARIA MANNING, GEORGE MANNING,

and BLOMFIELD RUSH, taken from life during their trials, a cast in plaster of Mr. O'Connor, and a plan of the kitchen where he was murdered, models of Stanfield Hall and Potash Farm, are now added to the Chamber of Horrors at Madame TUSAUD and SONS' EXHIBITION, Bazaar, Baker-street, Portman-square. Open from 11 till dusk, and from 7 till 10.—Admission: Large Room, 1s.; Small Rooms 6d. extra.

KING'S COLLEGE HOSPITAL BUILDING

and ENDOWMENT FUND.—On Friday, June 7, will be performed, under the entire direction and management of the Sacred Harmonic Society, MENDELSSOHN'S ORATORIO ST. PAUL.

Under the Patronage of

Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent.
 Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Cambridge.
 Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Gloucester.
 The Duchess of Northumberland.
 The Duchess of Sutherland.
 The Marchioness Cornwallis.
 The Countess Cowper.
 Frances, Countess of Waldegrave.
 The Countess of Mansfield.
 The Countess Manners.
 The Countess of Harrowby.
 The Countess of Sheffield.
 The Countess Howe.
 The Countess Cavendish.
 The Countess of Ellesmere.
 The Lady John Russell.
 The Viscountess Palmerston.
 The Lady Ashley.
 The Lady Rolle.
 The Lady Radstock.
 The Lady Feversham.
 Lady Peel.

The band will consist of 110 stringed instruments, including 14 double basses, and of 31 wind instruments, in addition to the large organ built for the Society; and the chorus will comprise upwards of 500 voices. The band and chorus united will number nearly 700 performers. Conductor—M. Costa.

Tickets—Reserved Seats in the Area, 11. 1s. each; Under the Gallery, 5s., may be obtained from J. W. Cunningham, Esq., King's College; John Lyon, Esq., King's College Hospital; the Office of the Sacred Harmonic Society, 6, Exeter-hall; Mr. Bowley, 53, Charing-cross; and the principal Music-sellers.

MONEY.—Gentlemen of character and standing,

Officers of her Majesty's service, &c., may have MONEY ADVANCED to them on their own or other Securities. Reversions, &c., bought.

Apply, from 11 to 4, to S. GAN'S, 9, Essex-street, Strand.

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MESSRS. DICKINSON and CO. beg to inform those who are studying the Fine Arts that they have on Hire Drawings by all the First Masters of the day, viz., Harding, Prout, Cox, Fielding, Topham, Jenkins, Abisalon, Oakley, Tripp, &c. Can be sent to any part of the United Kingdom.

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PUTTICK AND SIMPSON, Auctioneers of

Literary Property, will Sell by Auction, at their Great Room, 101, Piccadilly, on Thursday, May 30th, and two following days, the Extensive Stock of PRINTS, including capital Specimens of Ancient and Modern Masters, English and Foreign, many thousand Topographical subjects, Engravings, Miscellaneous and Theatrical fine Modern Engravings, Framed Prints and Drawings, a few Paintings, 150 useful Portfolios. May be viewed two days before the Sale. Catalogues will be sent on application.

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is strongly recommended for Softening, Improving, Beautifying and Preserving the SKIN, and in giving it a blooming and charming appearance, being at once a most fragrant perfume and a delicate cosmetic. It will completely remove Tan, Sun-burn, Redness, &c., and by its balsamic and healing qualities, render the skin supple and free from dryness, scurf, &c., clear it from every humour, pimple, or eruption; and, by continuing its use only a short time, the skin will become and continue soft and smooth, and the complexion generally clear and beautiful. Sold in bottles, price 2s. 6d., with directions for using it, by all Medicine Vendors and Perfumers.

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WARE BUSINESS is CARRIED ON in OXFORD STREET only.—The premises are the most extensive in London, and contain an ample assortment of every description of goods of the first manufacturers. A great variety of Dinner Services at four guineas each, cash.—250, Oxford Street, near Hyde Park.

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and Clock Maker to the Queen, H. R. H. Prince Albert, and H. I. M. the Emperor of Russia, having greatly increased his stock of WATCHES and CLOCKS, to meet the purchases made at this season of the year, most respectfully requests from the public an inspection of his various assortments. Ladies' gold watches, with gold dials, and jewelled in four holes, 8 guineas; gentlemen's ditto, camel dials, 10 guineas; youth's silver watches, 4 guineas; substantial accurate going silver lever watches, jewelled in four holes, 1 guinea. E. J. DENT, 82, Strand; 33, Cockspur Street; and 34, Royal Exchange (Clock Tower Area).

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A more detergent antiseptic, with additional petroleum, named "DISPENSARY SOAP," is prepared for inveterate cuticular affections of long standing; and, from experience in several public schools, where it has been employed in washing children's heads, it has proved an efficient specific for, and a complete protection against, the troublesome complaint known as ringworm.

The Dispensary Soap, being at a moderate price, is available for all classes, and is used with great success in purifying linen after infectious diseases; indeed, the use of it may, in many cases of typhus and other contagions, be considered a beneficial antidote.

H. HENDRIE,

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19 and 13, Tichborne Street, Regent's Quadrant.

UNITED KINGDOM LIFE ASSURANCE

COMPANY, Established by Act of Parliament in 1834-5, Waterloo place, Pall-mall, London; 97, George-street, Edinburgh; 12, St. Vincent-place, Glasgow; 4, College-green, Dublin.

SECOND SEPTENNIAL DIVISION OF PROFITS

AMONG THE ASSURED.

The bonus added to policies from March, 1834, to the 31st December, 1847, is as follows:

Sum Assured.	Time Assured.	Sum added to Policy in 1841.	Sum added to Policy in 1845.	Sum payable at Death.
£		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
5,000	13 yrs. 10 mo.	203 6 8	787 10 0	519 15 8
5,000	12 years	500 0 0	787 10 0	625 10 0
5,000	10 years	300 0 0	787 10 0	508 10 0
5,000	8 years	100 0 0	787 10 0	387 10 0
5,000	6 years	0 0 0	450 0 0	365 0 0
5,000	4 years	0 0 0	225 0 0	525 0 0
5,000	2 years	0 0 0	0 0 0	0 0 0

The premiums, nevertheless, are on the most moderate scale, and only one-half need be paid for the first five years when the insured is for life. Every information afforded on application to the Resident Director, No. 8, Waterloo-place, Pall-mall, London.

UNION ASSURANCE OFFICE

(FIRE, LIFE ANNUITIES), Cornhill and Baker-street, London; College-green, Dublin; and Esplanade, Hamburg.

Established A.D. 1714.

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NICHOLAS CHARRINGTON, Esq., DEPUTY CHAIRMAN.

The Life Bonus of the year 1848 has been declared, and with the exception of a reserve of 20,000, (to accumulate towards the next Bonus in 1853) is payable upon and with the sum insured.

The following will show the annual amount of Bonus on Policies for 1800, effected in Great Britain, according to the ages of the lives when assured:—

Age when Policy effected.	Amount of Premium received in the last Seven Years.	Bonus for the same time.	
20	132 10 10	105	Being about 70 per cent. on such amount of Premium.
25	168 5 10	105	Being 60 per cent. do.
30	186 10 2	105	Being 55 per cent. do.
35	209 9 4	105	Being 50 per cent. do.
40	237 14 2	105	Being 45 per cent. do.

THOMAS LEWIS, Secretary.

FIRE INSURANCE in all its branches, including the rent of houses, and profits returned on septennial insurances.

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Established in 1809, and Incorporated by Royal Charter, London Office, 4, New Bank-buildings, City, and 10, Pall-mall East; Chief Office, 64, Princes-street, Edinburgh.

Capital, 1,000,000, fully subscribed.

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Chairman.—Sir PETER LAURIE, Alderman.

Deputy Chairman.—FRANCIS WARDEN, Esq.

Physician.—JOHN WEBSTER, M.D., F.R.S.

Assurances effected either with or without participation of profits. On the participation scale the whole profits are divided amongst the assured, after reserving one-fifth against the risk of extraordinary mortality or other contingencies.

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Tables of increasing rates have been formed upon a plan peculiar to this Company, from which the following is an extract:—

PREMIUM TO INSURE £100 AT DEATH.

Age	First Year.	Second Year.	Third Year.	Fourth Year.	Fifth Year.	Remainder of life.
20	0 18 2	0 19 2	1 0 3	1 1 0	1 2 8	1 18 2
30	1 3 9	1 5 1	1 6 8	1 8 4	1 10 2	1 10 5
40	1 11 10	1 13 9	1 15 10	1 18 1	1 20 6	1 3 8 3

Prospectuses and every information may be obtained at the Office of the Company as above.

HENRY T. THOMSON, Secretary in London.

"FAMILIAR IN THEIR MOUTHS AS HOUSEHOLD WORDS," *Shakespeare.*

HOUSEHOLD WORDS.

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26	56 40.5	30	57 8.6
27	56 46.9	31	57 16.8
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TO CORRESPONDENTS.

To the Editor of the Literary Gazette.

Victoria Road, Kensington,
23rd May, 1850.

SIR,—I observe in your paper of last week the following statement, made by Mr. Reinagle, the painter, and late Royal Academician:—

"En passant, I may say that I wrote the life of Ramsay in 'Cunningham's Lives of the Painters,' which he promised to state to the public; but this he always omitted to do, and received any merit which accrued from it as his own."

Now, sir, the two circumstances set forth as facts in the above statement are both utterly untrue. Mr. Reinagle, I may say, and I can assure you from my own knowledge did not write the Life of Ramsay in 'Cunningham's Lives of the Painters,' and Allan Cunningham did not forget any promise he may have made to Mr. Reinagle, on the subject of a printed acknowledgment of the information he had afforded him, for I find at the end of Ramsay's Life, in the fifth volume of 'the Lives of British Artists,' the following note, sufficiently conspicuous:—

"For the most characteristic parts of this memoir, I am indebted to the kindness of Richard Ramsay Reinagle, Esq., R.A."

If Mr. Reinagle can make good his assertion that he wrote the Life of Ramsay in 'Cunningham's Lives of the Painters,' I shall then believe (but not till then) that he wrote the whole of the lives in the work referred to, for certainly the author of Ramsay's Life was the author of the Life of William Blake, and I am quite certain that Mr. Reinagle had no hand whatever in one of the most delightful pieces of biography in the English language.

It was the written opinion of Southey (as you will find in a future volume of Southey's Life by his Son), that the 'Lives of the British Artists,' by Allan Cunningham, are written in a style of very pure quality, such a style indeed as no other Scotchman, with the single exception of David Hume, has ever succeeded in attaining. When Southey wrote this, he was not aware that my father, in writing the 'Lives of the Painters,' had founded his style on Hume. 'Hume's History' was his constant study; the artless ease of his narrative was a frequent subject of remark with him.

I am, sir, yours, &c.—PETER CUNNINGHAM.

An Exhibitor reached us too late for this Gazette.

Erratum.—In our number 1738, Stutfall Castle should be read for Stridfall, in the notice of Excavations, p. 327.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

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5,000	8 years	100 0 0	787 10 0	5887 10 0
5,000	6 years	0 0 0	675 0 0	5675 0 0
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